

Israelis close Bethlehem University

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli authorities in the occupied West Bank Wednesday closed Bethlehem University for four days after students protesting against terrorism, university officials said. Arab students have been staging demonstrations for three days to protest Sunday's rocket attack by Jewish terrorists on an Arab bus in Jerusalem. One Arab youth was killed and 10 other passengers wounded in the attack. The Bethlehem closure leaves only two of the West Bank's four Arab universities open. On July 30 authorities closed the Najah University in Nablus for four months after confiscating "anti-Israel materials" at the university. Earlier the Dheisheh refugee camp near Bethlehem after youths stoned passing vehicles.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Arab Press Foundation
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King congratulates Algerian leader

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday sent a cable of good wishes to Algerian President Chadli Benjedid on his country's national day. In his cable, the King paid tribute to the great achievements of the Algerian people and for bravery and endeavour. He wished the president success in the leadership of his people and more progress for Algeria.

Turkish minister begins visit

AMMAN (Petra) — Turkish Foreign Minister Vahit Halesoglu arrived here Wednesday evening for a brief visit to Jordan and talks with Acting Foreign Minister Faher Hikmat. The Turkish minister was met by Mr. Hikmat along with several other officials upon arrival at the airport. Later Wednesday Mr. Hikmat hosted a dinner banquet in honour of the Turkish minister.

Pope honours Jordanian priest

VATICAN (J.T.) — His Holiness Pope John Paul II has conferred on Jordanian Roman Catholic priest Father George Saba the title of Monsignor for his writings in religious and ecclesiastical affairs over the past 20 years. Father George Saba from Ramallah in the Occupied West Bank had been serving in various Roman Catholic bishoprics in Jordan and is now serving at the Roman Catholic Patriarchate in Jerusalem.

King Hussein Bridge reopens

AMMAN (J.T.) — King Hussein Bridge across the River Jordan will reopen Thursday and travellers to and from the West Bank can cross both ways, according to a statement from the Public Security Department. The bridge had been closed over the past two days and no reason was given for the measure.

Universities team leave for Peking

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan University delegates left Jordan Wednesday heading to Peking to pay a visit to Republic of National China at the invitation of the Chinese Ministry of Higher Education and Training. The delegates will look at the latest educational methods used in the fields of science, culture, researches and training methods.

Israelis wound 5 in Sidon

SIDON, Lebanon (R) — Five civilians were wounded when Israeli troops opened fire after an explosion in the centre of the South Lebanon port of Sidon Wednesday, eyewitnesses said. The Israelis fired into the air and into nearby orchards for 15 minutes after the blast, in the Dallas area of Sidon, they said. They did not know the cause of the explosion but radio stations said it was caused by a rocket-propelled grenade fired at an Israeli patrol.

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Gandhi assassinated by Sikh guards; son named premier

NEW DELHI (Agencies) — Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was shot dead by her own bodyguards Wednesday in an apparent act of Sikh vengeance.

She was succeeded within hours by her son Rajiv, 40, and violence flared in Indian cities.

A government spokesman, giving the first formal account of the killing of the woman who had dominated Indian politics for 20 years, said she was killed by two of her own bodyguards.

Officials said earlier that the killers were Sikhs and a telephone call to a foreign news agency said the assassination was a Sikh act of vengeance. Crowds poured out of Indian city slums to attack trams, buses and taxis — often crewed by Sikhs — and shout anti-Sikh slogans.

Mrs. Gandhi earned the hatred of many Sikhs for ordering the army into their holiest shrine, the Golden Temple in Amritsar, on June 6.

At least 800 people died in the battle between troops and Sikh extremists using the complex as headquarters for a campaign of assassination to back demands for an autonomous state in Punjab.

Both bodyguards bore the Sikh name of Singh, but the prime minister's press secretary, H.Y. Sha-



Indira Gandhi

rada Prasad, apparently fearing a violent backlash against the Sikh community, refused to confirm the statement by government officials that the killers were Sikhs.

"It is not for me to say if the attackers were Sikhs," he told reporters.

Mr. Prasad said the 66-year-old Indian leader was shot as she walked from her house — No. 1, Saf-

darjung Road — to a nearby bungalow where she was to give an interview to British actor Peter Ustinov who was filming with an Irish crew.

One guard, Beant Singh, shot her with his pistol. "Immediately afterwards the other security guard, Satwant Singh, also opened fire at her," Mr. Prasad said. "He is reported to have emptied the contents of an automatic gun at her."

Other security staff overpowered the attackers. "Satwant Singh died and the other man was pronounced out of danger in hospital."

Mr. Prasad said the shooting took place at around 9:15 a.m. (0345 GMT). He said Mrs. Gandhi was rushed to a government hospital where doctors pronounced her dead at 2:30 p.m. (0900 GMT).

Mr. Prasad said one of the assassins had been one of Mrs. Gandhi's bodyguards for eight years.

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Gandhi murder — latest in long series of assassinations, page 5

World leaders condemn Gandhi's murder, page 8



Indian President Zail Singh Wednesday swears in Rajiv Gandhi as India's new prime minister following the assassination of Mrs. Indira Gandhi earlier in the day by her Sikh bodyguards (AP wirephoto)

King expresses 'shock and grief' at Gandhi's death

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday sent a cable of condolences to Indian President Zail Singh on the death of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, who was assassinated in New Delhi earlier in the day.

In his cable King Hussein expressed "deep shock and profound grief" on the death of Mrs. Gandhi and condemned the "ghastly assassination," the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said.

"The loss of Mrs. Gandhi for India and for the whole world cannot be compensated because the late premier had a special status worldwide," the King said in his cable. He said that Mrs. Gandhi's great contribution to the development of India and to promoting international understanding can "only add more dimension to the great tragedy."

The King expressed hope that permanent stability will prevail in India "which had always called for avoiding violence and for adhering to the principles of the late Mahatma Gandhi, and one which sought to achieve world peace through the Non-Aligned Movement."

King Hussein also sent a cable to the Gandhi family expressing his name and on behalf of Queen

Noor their heart-felt condolences on the death of Mrs. Gandhi.

Meanwhile, a three-day mourning period was announced at the Royal Court on the death of Mrs. Gandhi. The Royal Court issued a statement in which it said that the mourning was upon directives of King Hussein "in expression of the deep grief for the loss of the prime minister who helped to bolster Jordanian-Indian relations and promote cooperation between the two countries."

Mrs. Gandhi's policies were characterised by "wisdom and courage and far sightedness which enabled her to contribute most effectively towards modernising India and developing the nation and at the same time building a balanced attitude towards world nations," the statement said.

It said that Mrs. Gandhi played a major role in safeguarding the principles of the Non-Aligned Movement, and under the late prime minister India supported causes of world peace and justice.

Earlier on Wednesday, Acting Foreign Minister Taher Hikmat condemned the assassination of Mrs. Gandhi, and deplored all forms of violence and political terrorism as a means for settling differences.

Commenting on the assassination of the Indian prime

(Continued on page 2)

Mahjoub urges Arab states to restore relations with Egypt

AQABA (Petra) — Egypt's People Assembly speaker Wednesday called on Arab states to restore diplomatic relations with Cairo and said Egypt will "take two steps in the direction of rapprochement if Arab states take just one."

The call came at a press conference here by Dr. Rifat Mahjoub, shortly before his departure for home at the end of a visit to Jordan, leading a delegation from the joint Egypt-Israel Nile Valley Parliament.

Dr. Mahjoub said that Jordan's restoration of relations with Egypt reflects "not only Jordan's own desire for rapprochement but also the feelings and aspirations of the Arab people in Jordan and other Arab states."

The restoration of relations is to be regarded as a "turning point in joint Arab action, and Egypt will never forget this constructive Jordanian step," Dr. Mahjoub said.

Dr. Mahjoub described his visit to Jordan as "extremely successful in all aspects" and praised the economic achievements and industrial and agricultural and medical progress in Jordan.

Dr. Mahjoub urged Arab states to offer financial assistance to Jordan to enable it to continue building its economy.

In its drive to restore diplomatic ties with the Arab World, Egypt does not intend to forge unity with them yet, he said. The idea of an Arab unity is an aspired goal and this can only come about step by step, and through coordination among Arab states, he said.

Wednesday's press conference was held jointly with Akel Al Fayez, speaker of the Lower House of Parliament, who reiterated Jordan's demand for the establishment of peace on the basis of the U.N. Security Council resolutions 242 and 338.

Mr. Fayez also announced Jordan's willingness to host the Palestine National Council (PNC) meeting in Amman, and said that Jordan's parliamentary delegation to the coming Arab Parliamentary Union (APU) meeting in Aden in January 1985 will call for the return of the Egyptian parliament to the union.

Mr. Fayez urged Arab parliaments to work towards ending inter-Arab differences and called on the parliaments of Jordan, Egypt and Sudan in particular to take action towards restoring Arab solidarity.

Junblatt denies accord on army deployment

By Salameh B. Ne'matt Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader Walid Junblatt Wednesday denied reports that he has agreed to let the Lebanese army to deploy along the coastal road down to South Lebanon's defence lines with Israel.

Mr. Junblatt told the Jordan Times that did not agree to the Lebanese army's deployment along Beirut-Sidon road and that "the conditions remain to be discussed in Damascus" before any deployment takes place. He did not elaborate.

Mr. Junblatt, who also holds a portfolio at the Lebanese cabinet, dismissed as not true reports that Lebanese militias have agreed to allow the army to take over the coastal road to South Lebanon in preparation for a sudden Israeli troop withdrawal.

Commenting on reports of fighting Tuesday between his forces and Syrian National Social Party (SNSP) militias in west Beirut, Mr. Junblatt said "all what happened was a clash among some individuals which was dramatised by the conspiring Western press."

Speaking in a brief telephone interview, Mr. Junblatt told the Jordan Times his forces were "in alliance with the SNSP militias and on the same front."

In a dispatch from Beirut, Reuters quoted sources as saying that all major political groups had agreed in principle to give the army control over the Beirut-Sidon road to prevent a bloodbath like the one that followed an Israeli troop redeployment south to the Awali River last year.

Failure to reach an agreement on army deployment could lead to fighting in the Iqlim Al-Kharoub region, just north of the Israeli frontline, where Mr. Junblatt's mostly Druze PSP fighters confront the mainly Christian right-wing "Lebanese Forces" militia.

Beirut newspapers Wednesday quoted diplomatic sources as saying Israel planned to withdraw its soldiers within one week of the Nov. 6 U.S. presidential election at the latest.

The Israeli cabinet on Sunday officially proclaimed it wanted to withdraw from Lebanon within a short period through U.S.-mediated negotiations with Syria and direct military talks with Lebanon.

While an Israeli cabinet spokesman said the possibility of unilateral withdrawal had not been discussed, a senior Israeli official was quoted as saying that the possibility would be considered if negotiations proved fruitless.

Mideast poses axis for most dangerous conflict — Hassan

PARIS (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan has described the Middle East region as an axis for the most dangerous conflicts in modern history, and called for international understanding to help reduce the danger of armed conflicts and promote cooperation among nations.

In a statement read out on his behalf to a seminar of Western and Arab media in Paris, Prince Hassan said the Middle East region has witnessed five wars that caused considerable loss of life and material since the establishment of Israel.

Prince Hassan said the Arab-Israeli conflict has created misunderstanding not only between the original conflicting parties but also between the Arab and Western countries. However, it is rather encouraging to see that many sensible people on both sides are now calling for the reexamination of the reasons behind this misunderstanding, and this is perhaps one of the most important objectives of this seminar, Prince Hassan said.

Western information media had been painting a hostile picture of the Arab World based on poor knowledge of the real situation and the Arab people, he added.

"As Arabs we should not allow the others to aggravate the situation and deepen this misconception but we should adopt the method of dialogue through this seminar and similar others in order to eliminate much of the misunderstanding between the Arab and Western worlds," Prince Hassan said.

Israel, he said, had realised the importance of information media at an earlier stage and exploited it in a clever manner against the Arab Nation, especially in the United States.

Prince Hassan stressed the need for increasing information cooperation between developed and developing nations and called for the transfer of advanced technology to the developing countries to help promote their information systems.

Schmidt attacks superpowers over Mideast, page 2

OPEC reaches accord on sharing 1.5m bpd output cut

GENEVA (Agencies) — Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) producers Wednesday agreed to share out an 8.5 per cent cut in their output ceiling to prevent further falls in the precarious world oil price.

Saudi Oil Minister Ahmad Zaki Yamani called the deal reached in three days of hard bargaining and which involves cuts by virtually all OPEC states "a very good agreement."

OPEC conference chairman, Indonesian Oil Minister Subroto told a news conference that OPEC maverick Nigeria would be allowed to keep its current oil prices "for the time being."

Nigeria broke ranks with the other 12 members of OPEC two weeks ago with a unilateral price cut, sparking the organisation's current crisis.

Nigeria would also be permitted to keep its current production level under the agreement, which comes into force Thursday, as would Iraq. But the other 11

Wednesday's agreed quota reductions, with total previous output for the 13 OPEC nations, are as follows (barrels per day):		
Algeria	62,000	725,000
Ecuador	17,000	200,000
Gabon	13,000	150,000
Indonesia	111,000	1,300,000
Iran	100,000	2,400,000
Iraq	all	1,200,000
Kuwait	150,000	1,650,000
Libya	110,000	1,100,000
Nigeria	all	1,300,000
Qatar	20,000	300,000
UAE	150,000	1,100,000
Venezuela	120,000	1,675,000

Saudi Arabia, whose effective quota is five million bpd, will take the 647,000 bpd balance of the agreed 1.5 million bpd cut.

members had all agreed to cuts ranging from 13,000 barrels a day for Gabon to 647,000 for OPEC giant Saudi Arabia.

Non-OPEC member Egypt said Wednesday it would cut its exports of 300,000 bpd by 30,000 bpd in November but maintain its prices unchanged. The announcement was made by a spokesman for the Egyptian General Petroleum Corporation in Cairo.

The twin decisions were announced by Hammad Ayoub, deputy chairman of the corporation and the Oil Ministry's highest policy-making body.



West German President Richard von Weizsaecker Wednesday receives Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak in Bonn (AP wirephoto)

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Note Page 7

It is with deep shock and grief that the Embassy of India announces the ghastly assassination of Mrs. Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, on Oct. 31, 1984. A condolence book will remain open at the premises of the embassy, Jabal Amman, First Circle, Amman from Thursday Nov. 1 till Saturday, Nov. 3, 1984, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Mideast leaders shocked by Gandhi's assassination

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Middle East leaders expressed shock at the assassination Wednesday of Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, hailing her as a friend of the Arab cause and one of the Third World's most prominent leaders.

"The world has lost one of the most prominent leaders in the Non-Aligned World," Kuwaiti Minister of State Abdul Aziz Hussein said. "Kuwait and the Arab World have also lost a friend who understood Arab and non-aligned issues," he said.

Egypt's Deputy Foreign Minister Omran Shafie said Cairo was "profoundly shaken" by news of what he called "a brutal act of violence."

The Emir of Bahrain, Sheikh Isa bin Salman Al Khalifa, sent a message of condolence to Indian President Zail Singh and paid tribute to Mrs. Gandhi's work in the service of the Non-Aligned Movement and world peace.

Prime Minister Sheikh Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa said: "Her death is a big loss. She was a great political leader who gave a lot to her country and to world peace."

The president of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) also sent a cable offering condolences on Mrs. Gandhi's "tragic death," the Emirates News Agency WAM reported.

Iran's National News Agency IRNA said Prime Minister Mir-Hossein Mousavi had expressed sorrow over the killing, adding Iran would send a representative to the funeral.

Sultan Qaboos of Oman said in a cable of condolence that he was "deeply moved by the treacherous attack on Prime Minister Indira Gandhi who had played an effective role in the service of world peace."

In Bahrain, which has a large Indian population, Indian Association President M.R. Bhatia said the assassination was meant to change Indian politics. "I think it is very unfortunate that political decisions are made that way," he said.

Syrian President Hafez Al Assad expressed deep regret over the assassination of Mrs. Gandhi and praised her defence of Arab and humanitarian causes.

In cables sent to Indian President Zail Singh and Mrs. Gandhi's son Rajiv and broadcast on state-run Damascus Radio, Mr. Assad said he had learnt of the Indian prime minister's death "with deep regret and sorrow."

Mrs. Gandhi had "dedicated her life to serve the great people of India," he said. "Her political stand testifies to her true sincerity to causes affecting the life of people throughout the world."

"I wish to recall with high appreciation Mrs. Gandhi's defence of Arab causes and her support for our struggle to repulse aggression

on our nation," Mr. Assad added. Druze leader Walid Junblatt condemned Wednesday's killing of Mrs. Gandhi, whom he described as "a prominent freedom-fighter for peace and progress."

In cables sent to Indian President Zail Singh and Mrs. Gandhi's son Rajiv, Mr. Junblatt said the assassination was "a criminal imperialist operation aimed at the disintegration of India."

More than a million expatriate Indian workers took to their embassies along the Gulf region Wednesday to offer condolences over the assassination of Mrs. Gandhi.

Many were in tears, eulogising the deceased leader as a "great person... a leader who gave India esteem in the world of non-alignment."

"It is a vile, despicable aggression," said the Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, in his message to Indian President Zail Singh.

Flags atop Indian embassies were half-masted, while expatriate Indian workers huddled in large numbers at road intersections in Bahrain, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia lamenting Gandhi's death.

An Indian office manager in Manama, Abdullah Mannai, said the "sudden death of Mrs. Gandhi will cause the political status of India to diminish" in world politics.

"She was a great leader, ably coping with thorny problems of more than 750 million people," said Mr. Mannai. "I don't think she can be easily replaced."

WFP to supply emergency food aid to assist farmers affected by drought

By Anne Connell
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — Emergency food aid worth \$853,000 will be sent to Jordan shortly to help 100,000 drought victims, according to a United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) announcement from Rome. The food aid, mainly wheat and milk powder, will be provided under the U.N. World Food Programme (WFP), the announcement added.

Jordan requested support from the FAO in May of this year following a severe drought which many officials described as the worst since 1947. The drought particularly affected the wheat harvest, animal fodder production and the livestock sector.

Mr. Ahmad Rimawi from the Ministry of Agriculture Wednesday told the Jordan Times that the WFP aid will be distributed to livestock farmers in the southern and eastern parts of the Kingdom where the grazing pastures have been ruined by the dry season and overgrazing. Mr. Rimawi said that the food aid will help the farmers

through the winter and added that the assistance is expected to last until March or April of next year when the pastures will start to support livestock again.

Fodder for livestock

The Ministry of Agriculture in cooperation with the Jordan Cooperative Organisation (JCO) will be responsible for distributing the food aid to the farmers in the badia regions, Mr. Rimawi added. The JCO has been supplying farmers with subsidised wheat bran and barley to livestock but Mr. Rimawi said that many of these farmers have a limited budget for themselves and their livestock and because of the drought, less of their funds had been spent on maintaining their flocks and herds. He expects that the WFP food aid will enable farmers to purchase animal fodder rather than having to spend their money on food for themselves and their families.

This year's drought has had a large impact on the national flock which had been steadily increasing

in number over the past five years.

The drought, however, necessitated a government ban on five sheep imports earlier in the year to reduce demands for fodder. This, coupled with the lifting of restrictions on the export of animals, could result in a drop local red meat production. The ministry and other concerned organisations are now trying to maintain the national flock through imported fodder.

The WFP signed a \$3.5 million agreement with Jordan in 1979 for a three-year range land and forage development project and has assisted the Ministry of Agriculture's Highland Development Project by providing "food for work" on a pro rata basis in order to prepare land for cultivation under the project. The WFP is also involved in a project with the Ministry of Education to provide meals for students.

The WFP is currently assisting people in Sudan, Kenya, Rwanda, Lesotho and Mexico due to the drought conditions which have drastically affected crop yields.

King expresses 'shock and grief'

(Continued from page 1)

minister, Mr. Hikmat said: "The crime caused a deep shock to all Jordanians who generally condemn such actions."

The minister paid tribute to Mrs. Gandhi's "unique role in the international arena, especially to her role within the Non-Aligned Movement and her sympathy and support for Arab causes, particularly the Palestinian cause."

Indians express grief

Members of the Indian community living in Jordan Wednesday reacted with "shock and profound grief" to the assassination of Mrs. Gandhi.

"I am deeply shocked and grieved at this cowardly and ghastly action," said Fyare Lal Santoshi, ambassador of India to Jordan. "I just could not believe the news and was still entertaining hopes it was not true when it was confirmed."

"She was a great leader who contributed all she could to India and her loss to the country and the international community at large is more than words can define," Mr. Santoshi said.

Asked to comment on the transition of power to Mrs. Gandhi's son, Rajiv, who was sworn in as the new prime minister, the ambassador expressed "firm conviction" on the democratic process in India and cited the election of Mr. Gandhi as an example of "India's ability to overcome such crises and follow the democratic tradition."

Mr. Santoshi added that he did not "envision any change in India's present policies" by Mrs. Gandhi's death or the assumption of power by her son.

"In fact it is a tribute to her great contribution to the country that Mr. Rajiv Gandhi has been democratically elected to succeed her," he said.

"It was with shock I heard the news," said a prominent Indian consultant, who had had personal encounters with the Indian independence struggle and leaders of pre and post-independence era.

"Regardless of her several mistakes in dealing with internal situations, Mrs. Gandhi's devotion to the progress of India and the country's traditions was just too

great which made her one of the prominent world leaders," said the consultant, who preferred to remain anonymous.

Commenting on Mr. Gandhi being sworn in as the new premier, he said: "Democracy in India is deeply rooted and the premiership of Mr. Rajiv Gandhi is just another manifestation of the grassroots level of the system in India."

However, he added, "I wish the change in the leadership had come through a democratic process and not through violence as it happened today."

"I'm thoroughly depressed by the news," said Professor Binupathi Banerjee, head of the Physiology Department at the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Jordan.

"The light of India is gone," Prof. Banerjee said, quoting the words of Jawaharlal Nehru, father of Mrs. Gandhi, upon the death of Indian independence leader Mahatma Gandhi.

"Mrs. Gandhi had a dynamic personality and the loss to India by her death is irreparable," he said.

Chandrasekhar Rayasam, an insurance executive, expressed "deep sorrow" at the death of Mrs. Gandhi, who he said was assassinated by "immature fools who could not realise the value of her contribution to India and its march towards progress."

"No doubt, she had her own faults as any other human being, but in the light of her efforts and contributions to the country all such shortcomings simply fade away," Mr. Rayasam said.

"It's a shame on all Sikhs if it is proved that they have been responsible for this despicable crime," said Niranjan Singh, a Sikh construction worker. "There is no doubt that the Sikhs, along with all other communities in India, did honour and respect her, and the criminals behind her assassination will not find much support among the majority of the Sikh community," he added.

The Indian community plans to hold a condolence meeting at the Indian embassy premises on Friday at 10 a.m. to mourn Mrs. Gandhi's death, and the embassy of India announced Wednesday that it will open a book of condolences at the embassy on Thursday. The book will remain open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

PLO is as divided as Knesset, report says

WASHINGTON — The Palestinians are divided, like Israel's Knesset, into a score of ideological factions, each sure that it alone has the answer.

But as Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat strives to call a meeting of the Palestine National Council (PNC) — the parliament — He faces a more inevitable division based on town or village, or origin.

Palestinians living in the occupied territories, or whose family homes are there, are mostly prepared to give up the battle to reverse the 1947 U.N. decision partitioning Palestine and creating a Jewish state — although the fac-

tionism that followed the Lebanese conflict spread to the West Bank in a war of graffiti which amused the Israeli occupation forces.

Those Palestinians who originally came from Jaffa, Haifa and other places within Israel itself are more intransigent and tend to furnish the college of Mr. Arafat's enemies within the PLO leadership. Mr. Arafat, although born in Jerusalem, is a Gazan.

The State Department views Mr. Arafat with a mixture of admiration and irritation.

"He has chips to call in on us, such as his genuine efforts to get the American hostages out of Tehran," says one official. "But

he's so adept at keeping so many balls in the air at a time that he just can't make up his mind to throw away some of the balls and start playing the game he plays best — pragmatism."

These views have been made known to Mr. Arafat's representative in Washington, Hasan Abdul Rahman. The response always has been, broadly, that to pursue a flexible, pragmatic policy, and to speak with authority, Mr. Arafat needs the broadest possible mandate from a nation of 4 million spread across the world, and particularly from those living on Israel's borders, who would have to make any solution work.

Washington Times.

Schmidt attacks superpowers

PARIS (R) — Former West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt delivered a sharp attack on superpower involvement in the Middle East, saying it was more likely to aggravate conflicts there than help resolve them.

Addressing a seminar of Western and Arab media experts in Paris, Mr. Schmidt also said there was no immediate prospect of a peace initiative from the European Community because it was too busy bickering over minor internal problems.

The only hope for peace in the Middle East now lay with the countries of the region, who should reduce their rhetoric and show more reason and diplomatic will to compromise, he said.

"Neither the United States nor the Soviet Union have sufficient knowledge and, I regret to say, wisdom to bring about a so-called solution to this complex crisis."

"The more involved they become, the more likely they are to do the wrong thing," Mr. Schmidt added.

Mr. Schmidt, who led the West German government from 1974 to 1982, stressed that he was speaking as a private individual.

In a reference to the oil crisis sparked by the 1973 Middle East war, Mr. Schmidt warned against "high-handed intervention" to protect vital interests, notably concerning major oil-producing states, which he said could deal another devastating blow to the world economy.

He said Europeans had a better understanding of conflicts in the Middle East and were unlikely to engage in power-play in the region, but they lacked unity of purpose.

He was deeply disappointed by the 10-nation Community's failure to follow up its 1980 Venice Declaration, which called for a settlement guaranteeing Palestinian self-determination.

"The Europeans are bickering about agricultural policies, they are bickering about budgetary problems of third-rate importance... right now I do not see that Europe will pursue joint policies or strategies on the Middle East," Mr. Schmidt said.

"If there are solutions to Middle East conflicts, they must be found by the states concerned."

He added: "I do not believe in any single solution. I think this is

an American dream. It is an illusion. I also do not think any solution can be imposed on the countries of the region."

On wider international affairs, Mr. Schmidt called for greater respect for non-alignment throughout the world and particularly in the Middle East.

Earlier Tuesday the British Labour opposition foreign affairs spokesman, Denis Healey, told the seminar he believed Moscow could play a greater role in Middle East peace efforts.

Andrew Neil, editor of Britain's Sunday Times, was one of several Western journalists who referred to difficulties in gaining access to reliable information in Arab countries.

Experience had shown that the Middle East was the most difficult area in the world, with the exception of the Soviet Union, to report on accurately, he said.

"The reasons for this lie principally with the governments of the area, who are unwilling to allow journalists entry into their countries unless they know they are going to write favourable reports," Mr. Neil said.

TV & RADIO

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MAIN CHANNEL
17:00 Koran
17:15 Cartoons
17:30 Children's Programmes
18:15 Chops
A Special programme on Algeria
19:00 News in Arabic
19:15 News in Arabic
19:30 Local Competition Programme
20:00 Programme Review
21:00 News in Arabic
21:15 News in Arabic
21:30 Play Continued

FOREIGN CHANNEL

18:00 French Programme
19:00 News in French
19:15 News in Hebrew
19:30 Faint Hearted Feminist
20:00 Towards 2000
21:00 Sherlock Holmes
21:15 News in English
22:15 Feature Film: George and Mildred

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10:00 News Summary
10:30 Pop Session
11:00 News Summary
11:30 Pop Session
12:00 News Summary
12:30 News Bulletin
13:00 Just A Minute
13:30 Concert Hour
14:00 News Summary
14:30 Instrumentals
15:00 Old Favorites
15:30 Special Feature
16:00 Pop Session
16:30 News Summary
17:00 Good Old Days
17:30 Music
18:00 News
18:30 Evening Show
19:00 News Summary
19:30 Evening Show
20:00 News Summary
20:30 News Summary
21:00 Close Down

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06:00 VOA Morning News on the hour; news summaries; business report; science and medicine; sports reports; VOA editorial and world and U.S. opinion roundup; analysis; viewpoints; features 17:10 News 17:30 Special English News and Features 18:00 News 18:10 Focus 18:30 News Music USA 19:00 News 19:10 Newsline 19:30 Special English News and Features 20:00 News 20:10 Focus 20:30 News Music USA 21:00 Newsline 21:30 Magazine Show 22:00 News and Editorial 22:15 Music USA 22:30 VOA World Report

FOR FRIDAY

JORDAN TELEVISION

MAIN CHANNEL
18:00 Koran
18:15 Cartoons
18:30 Children's Programmes
19:00 News in Arabic
19:15 News in Arabic
19:30 Local Competition Programme
20:00 Programme Review
21:00 News in Arabic
21:15 News in Arabic
21:30 Play Continued

FOREIGN CHANNEL

18:00 French Programme
19:00 News in French
19:15 News in Hebrew
19:30 Faint Hearted Feminist
20:00 Towards 2000
21:00 Sherlock Holmes
21:15 News in English
22:15 Feature Film: George and Mildred

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM
and partly on 95.60 KHz. SW

07:00 Light Music
07:30 News
08:00 News
08:30 News Summary
09:00 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
10:30 Pop Session
11:00 News Summary
11:30 Pop Session
12:00 News Summary
12:30 News Bulletin
13:00 Just A Minute
13:30 Concert Hour
14:00 News Summary
14:30 Instrumentals
15:00 Old Favorites
15:30 Special Feature
16:00 Pop Session
16:30 News Summary
17:00 Good Old Days
17:30 Music
18:00 News
18:30 Evening Show
19:00 News Summary
19:30 Evening Show
20:00 News Summary
20:30 News Summary
21:00 Close Down

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITION

* An exhibition of Islamic ceramics from Italy at the Royal Cultural Centre, until Nov. 4.
* Painting exhibition by Saba Tamim at 5:00 p.m. at the Pura Bank gallery, head office, Wadi Saqra, Amman, until Nov. 7.
* An exhibition of artificial flowers at the Turkish Cultural Centre, until Nov. 6.
* An exhibition of dolls and puppets from Russia at the Royal Cultural Centre until Nov. 5.

FILM

"Greek film week in Amman" held at the Royal Cultural Centre from Nov. 1 to Nov. 8

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267
American Centre 44371
British Council 36147-8
French Cultural Centre 37009
Goethe Institute 41993
German Cultural Centre 42403
Spanish Cultural Centre 39777
Turkish Cultural Centre 39777
Haya Arts Centre 665195
Husseini Youth City 667181
Y.W.C.A. 41793
Y.W.M.A. 664251
Amman Municipal Library 36111
University of Jordan Library 843555

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman, Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 57160.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.
Hajjaj's Palace: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, Tel. 24590.
Catholic Church (Roman Catholic) Catholic: Jabal Leuwidh, 37440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Haya Arts Centre, 665195.
Y.W.C.A. 41793.
Y.W.M.A. 664251.
Amman Municipal Library 36111.
University of Jordan Library 843555.

PRAYER TIMES

04:30 Fajr
05:32 Sunrise
11:20 Dhuhr
14:24 Asr
16:47 Maghreb
18:00 Isha

AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alfa International Airways at the Queen Alia International Airport tel. (06) 53250, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

06:00 Cairo (MS)
06:15 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
06:30 Bucharest (RO)
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Indira: The energetic leader who steered the Indian ship for almost two decades

From Reuters

NEW DELHI — Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, 66, assassinated Wednesday, has been leader of the world's largest democracy for most of the past two decades.

Mrs. Gandhi first became prime minister in 1966, two years after the death of her father Jawaharlal Nehru, a towering figure in India's independence struggle and its post-colonial infancy.

Apart from a spell of almost three years in opposition from 1977 to 1980, she has been in power ever since.

She inherited the political legacy not only of Mr. Nehru, independent India's first prime minister, but also of her grandfather Motilal Nehru, an early nationalist leader.

She owes her grip on party and government less to her illustrious pedigree than to her political acumen, toughness and personal drive.

But two hard decisions — elections in Assam and to storm the holiest Sikh temple to root out extremists in Punjab — led to bloodshed and turmoil and presented her with major domestic crises.

After a quiet start in politics, the shy and withdrawn Mrs. Gandhi blossomed into a relentless and shrewd tactical fighter.

To stay at the top when her party leadership was threatened, she twice split her father's Congress Party and denuded it of many political giants.

She achieved a remarkable political comeback in January, 1980, when she won general elections 33 months after being cast into the cold by an electorate dismayed at her earlier imposition of a harsh internal emergency.

Humiliated, taken to court, twice sent to jail, deserted by party colleagues and expelled from parliament, she displayed her fighting mettle by sweeping back to power with a two-thirds majority in parliament.

Mrs. Gandhi's high international reputation was crowned when she took the chair of the 101-member non-aligned movement in March, 1983.

Her leadership, replacing that of Cuban President Fidel Castro at a time of growing tension in East-West relations, was warmly welcomed in many parts of the world where she is seen as a moderate trying to steer India — and perhaps the Non-Aligned Movement — on a Middle path between the superpowers.

Since her 1980 return to power, she has had some severe personal and political setbacks.

In June, 1980, her younger son Sanjay, her closest adviser and likely political heir, died in an air crash.

Sanjay's wife Maneka left the prime minister's household in acrimonious circumstances less than two years later and went on to form her own political party carrying Sanjay's name.

Mrs. Gandhi's elder son Rajiv, an airline pilot, was drafted in to take Sanjay's political place and became a general secretary of the ruling Congress (I) Party.

The party, listing badly from internal dissensions in a number of states, suffered a setback when it lost elections in the two southern states of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh in January, 1983.

Both states had always been Congress bastions and had stood by Mrs. Gandhi even when most of the country rejected her in 1977.

The prime minister was faced with two grave problems that both erupted into violence in 1983.

Some 3,000 people died, mainly in ethnic clashes, in the northeastern state of Assam after she called elections there in February. Congress (I) won the poll, which had been bitterly opposed by Assamese militants wanting to evict illegal immigrants from the state.

Her party also ruled in the northern state of Punjab, where the opposition Sikh Akali Dal Party mounted a lengthy campaign in support of religious and political demands, including greater autonomy. Extremists joined in the campaign and violence became almost a way of life in Punjab.

Finally, in June, 1984, the Indian Army stormed the Golden Temple — the Sikhs' holiest shrine — in Amritsar, where many fundamentalist extremists were holed up. Hundreds died in the assault, which had the immediate effect of uniting Sikhs of all political persuasions into an anti-Gandhi mood.

The ultimate consequences were incalculable but Mrs. Gandhi is used to tackling the seemingly impossible.

When she first came to power at the age of 48 in January, 1966, a handsome widow with hawk-like features and a white streak in her hair, she inherited one of the most difficult tasks in world government.

India has perennial problems of flood and drought, with the constant fear that any disruption of food crops could cause serious trouble. Many of the country's 700 million people live beneath the poverty line.

Under Mrs. Gandhi's stewardship, India became the world's sixth nuclear power in

1974 and launched a rocket to join five other countries in the space club in 1980.

She rejected charges that she was tilting too much towards the Soviet Union in foreign affairs, and visited both Moscow and Washington in 1982 to underline New Delhi's non-alignment.

Mrs. Gandhi reached a pinnacle of popularity when India and Pakistan went to war over the creation of Bangladesh out of East Pakistan in 1971.

But public opinion turned against her over the next few years as India's problems worsened and she became accused of increasing autocracy.

Rather than step down when the tide against her culminated in a damaging court case over corrupt electoral practices, she declared an internal emergency on June 26, 1975.

A programme of mass sterilisation championed by Sanjay was perhaps the most unpopular aspect of the emergency. But a mood of sullen resentment, particularly in the north, was directed also at the loss of civil liberties and the right to vote.

When she suddenly and surprisingly announced in January, 1977, that she would end the emergency and hold elections, the anti-Indira mood swept Mrs. Gandhi out of power and brought in a coalition of disparate opposition groups known as the Janata Party.

Mrs. Gandhi not only led Congress to its first election defeat in 30 years of independence, she also lost her seat.

Hounded and cast by many commentators into the stockpile of Indian history, she carefully prepared her return and took skillful

advantage of tactical errors and divisions within the ruling party.

Her first arrest in October, 1977, on charges of corruption and misuse of power which were later dropped, gave her the chance to portray herself as a martyr and win back sympathy.

Her first major political move was to regain control of Congress. She led the breakaway Congress (I) — I for Indira — to sweeping victories in state elections in south India.

"A predictable revolt within the five-party Janata coalition brought down Prime Minister Morarji Desai in July, 1979.

His deputy, Charan Singh, who led the rebellion, took over with Mrs. Gandhi's support. But she soon backed out and forced a mid-term election, paving the way for her return to power, which she promised would give India "a government that works".

Indira Gandhi was born on Nov. 19, 1917, and spent her childhood at the Nehru ancestral home in Allahabad, which became the hub of the independence movement against the British.

"As a child all my games were political games," she once said. "I was Joan of Arc, perpetually being burned at the stake."

She went to a local convent school. But her schooldays were constantly interrupted by packing clothes for parents, aunts and facing trouble for their part in the freedom struggle.

Her faultless English and fluent French came from her years in English and Swiss schools and at Somerville College, Oxford, where she studied history, a course ill-health made her abandon.

But the main influence on her education came from her father, who consciously groomed her to succeed him one day.

In 1942 she married a Parsi fellow-student, instead of a Kashmiri Brahmin like her parents. Within a month of her marriage, she and her husband Feroze Gandhi — no relation of the Mahatma — were jailed for joining in the anti-British "Quit India" movement. Feroze died in 1960.

Mrs. Gandhi was gradually drawn into the political arena in the 1950s as hostess and companion to her father, for many years a widower.

In 1955 she joined the Congress Working Committee, the party's top executive, and four years later became party president.

But it was only after Mr. Nehru's death in 1964 that she entered the cabinet as minister of information and broadcasting under Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri.

Two years later, when Mr. Shastri died suddenly of a heart attack at Tashkent, in the Soviet Union, she was elected by the party to succeed him as India's third prime minister.

Though born a Hindu, she is firmly committed to the idea of a secular and socialist India.

She nationalised leading banks, curbed the privileges of India's former princely rulers and identified herself with her party's leftist faction when it split in 1969.

Her upbringing in the aristocratic Nehru household was a mixture of realism and idealism.

"My mother taught me to keep my feet firmly on the ground and my father was never tired of insisting that I should hitch my wagon to a star," she once said.

In memory of Indira Gandhi

AS IF to prove how fickle power is, three or more of Mrs. Gandhi's own bodyguards assassinated her. This tragic human and political irony notwithstanding, the untimely loss of a great world leader brings with it a deep shock and sadness to all of us. We can only share in the world's revulsion and grief at the tragic loss of the Indian prime minister.

The fingers that pulled the trigger of the gun that killed Mrs. Gandhi were probably also writing the last chapter of an era in the sub-continent. The perpetrators of the despicable crime, no doubt, relished the results of their handiwork and might be congratulating each other, but it is doubtful whether they realise what they have deprived the world of.

Always at the forefront of efforts to raise the voice of the oppressed and the down-trodden in the world, Mrs. Gandhi was a great leader not void of an enigma that characterised the traditional Indian beliefs and faiths. During the 17 years she was at the helm of Indian politics, she radiated a charisma and an image that were so much identified with the Indian character and image that no one could have thought of the vast and diversified nature of India without thinking of Mrs. Gandhi first.

Some tended to see her as a dictator while some others saw her as a political genius, but the fact remains that she did in fact manage to clarify her country's aims and steer it as one of the most powerful voices in the world. While only a few could dispute that some of her decisions were controversial and did end up in leading the country into some of the worst sectional conflicts the world has seen, one could not help but wonder whether there existed any other means to effectively control the diversified country of over 720 million people.

The rest of the globe in general has reacted to the death of Mrs. Gandhi with profound shock. The Arab World has lost one of its closest friends. The Arabs could have always looked towards India for sympathy with their cause and Mrs. Gandhi spared no efforts to show the world that India insisted on the restoration of the legitimate rights of the Palestinians as part of any solution to the Middle East conflict.

The efforts she launched as chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement to initiate new proposals to end the Iran-Iraq war were, no doubt, based on Mrs. Gandhi's belief that a happy world is a world without war and conflicts.

It is our belief that after her Indians will remain to be in the forefront of efforts to raise the Arab voice in the international arena and continue to go on the side of justice in any world conflict.

Our hearts go out to those millions in India who had found a new hope in the leadership of Mrs. Gandhi. She, regardless of the extent of her success, was the symbol of justice and peace for all people in the Third World and beyond.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Rai: Summit is necessary

AS WE watch the Zionist enemy receiving all forms of assistance and sophisticated weapons from the U.S. and other sources, we feel let down as a confrontation state by sister Arab states which were committed by the Arab summit resolutions to enable Jordan to supply itself with the required defensive weapons.

Those states which failed to honour their commitments to Jordan have also weakened the Palestinians under Zionist occupation and encouraged Israel to carry out its settlement plans unhindered.

In his interview with Kuwaiti newspapers, King Hussein called for the convening of an Arab summit on schedule to discuss this question and a host of other issues that require immediate attention and solution. The Arab leaders should find solutions to the Lebanese crisis and the Iran-Iraq war, and should provide the means for bolstering Jordan's defence and helping the Palestinians, who confront the Israeli occupation in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

The Arab leaders should meet to put an end to the differences and disputes that have divided their states and weakened their ranks. They must find a means of implementing the Arab Defence pact, to defend all parts of the Arab Nation.

Al Dustour: Proud of their resistance

THE ARABS in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip have suddenly escalated their national struggle against the occupation authorities and are again displaying steadfastness in the face of Israeli arbitrary measures. They are stepping up their struggle despite the fact that their resources and power are limited in the face of the Zionist military machinery and are continuing their endeavours despite a failure by the Arab countries to help them and extend to them all means possible to enhance their struggle.

The resistance in the occupied lands is writing chapters of heroism in the history of their nation and they have not lost hope despite the prevailing pitiable situation in the Arab World.

Since the Zionist attack on the bus in the West Bank which killed four Arabs and injured eight others, a state of tension has prevailed in the occupied Arab lands. The Arabs, who see Jewish settlers stepping up their terrorist attacks on them are themselves escalating the struggle and fighting with the means available to them like stones and by blocking roads.

This confrontation serves as a warning to the Arab Nation and the leaders of the Arab states who hear and see these events every day.

Sawt Al Shaab: Shouldering national responsibility

IN HIS interview with the Kuwaiti newspaper, King Hussein outlined clearly Jordan's national policies. Also Crown Prince Hassan echoed King Hussein's views in his interview with Jordan Television on Monday. Both stressed Jordan's endeavours for achieving Arab solidarity in the face of common danger. They said that there can be no solution to any of the Arab World's problems unless Arab leaders reach an agreement at a summit meeting at which they can also plan future strategy.

Jordan, due to its position of direct confrontation with the Zionist enemy, has based its policy on unifying the Arabs and mobilising their resources in the face of the common danger. Jordan is directly affected by the Palestine problem and has pledged to continue helping the Palestinians to regain their rights. This policy should be enhanced by support and commitment by Arab states.

With the aim of achieving this solidarity, Jordan has taken the initiative to bring Egypt back to the Arab fold. Jordan was the first Arab state to realise the seriousness of the situation in the region and the need to win Egypt back to the Arab side so as to help its sister states confronting the threats. By restoring its relations with Egypt, Jordan has also taken the first step towards eliminating Arab differences and ending inter-Arab disputes.

Gandhi assassinated by Sikh guards

(Continued from page 1)

Official sources said one of the killers had been on leave over the past two months in Gurdaspur district of Punjab, bordering Pakistan. The area is a stronghold of extremist disciples of Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, a militant preacher who was killed when the Golden Temple was stormed.

They said he had returned to duty only two days ago.

Early accounts of the assassination from government officials had said that three bodyguards took part in the shooting. The Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency said the entire security unit at Mrs. Gandhi's residence had been taken off duty and were being interrogated by police for possible links with the assassins.

As darkness fell, crowds poured out of Delhi's slums to vent their anger and grief. Witnesses said more than a dozen buses and taxis were set ablaze in the capital, where several taxi services are manned by Sikhs.

At least 45 Sikhs were injured in the clashes with mobs. Outside the hospital where Mrs. Gandhi's body lay under heavy guard, a gathering of more than 100,000 mourners erupted into violence as they attacked Sikhs, some of whom earlier had been reportedly celebrating the assassination by passing out sweets.

Sikhs were beaten with rods and chains outside the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, shouting, "kill them, kill them," eyewitnesses reported.

The battles broke out after a member of Mrs. Gandhi's governing Congress Party emerged from the hospital and told the crowd: "She is no more." Cries

and sobs rose from the gathering and many prayed and beat their breasts.

In other areas of the Indian capital, tensions flared as the official announcement of the 66-year-old leader's death was broadcast on state radio.

In Bombay, groups of people shouted anti-Sikh slogans outside the principal Sikh temple, and Sikh shops were under heavy police guard, according to residents.

In Calcutta, police used batons to disperse mobs and at least one person was knifed. Trams were attacked and burned and traffic was at a standstill, witnesses said.

In Trivandrum, capital of the southern state of Kerala, huge crowds occupied the main railway station and blocked trains. A state-wide strike had begun. Residents said.

Crowds forced shops to close in the southern city of Bangalore, the Press Trust of India news agency said.

An official spokesman told reporters a meeting of the Congress (I) Party's parliamentary board nominated Mr. Rajiv Gandhi as the new prime minister at a meeting Wednesday evening.

Four senior ministers of Mrs. Gandhi's cabinet, Pranab Mukherjee, P.V. Narasimha Rao, Buta Singh and P. Shiv Shankar, were also sworn into Rajiv's government. PTI said.

The funeral of Mrs. Gandhi will take place on Saturday, the government announced.

An official spokesman told reporters Mrs. Gandhi's body would lie in state from Thursday at a museum in New Delhi that was once the home of her father, Jawaharlal Nehru, the country's first prime minister.

The murdered Indian leader will be cremated at Shantivan Gardens where Nehru, who was

prime minister from India's independence in 1947 to 1964, was also cremated, he said.

All central government offices will be shut Thursday and official flags will fly at half-mast until Nov. 12, the spokesman said.

At the new cabinet's first meeting Wednesday presided over by Mr. Gandhi, ministers passed a resolution praising Indira Gandhi's leadership, the spokesman said.

It said the entire nation felt orphaned at the loss of an indefatigable fighter for the country's integrity and unity.

"Even if I died in the service of nation, I would be proud of it," she told a public meeting in Orissa state.

"Every drop of my blood, I am sure, will contribute to the growth of this nation and to make it strong and dynamic," Mrs. Gandhi said.

Morarji Desai, a former ministerial colleague and later prime minister in opposition to Mrs. Gandhi, said her murder should be condemned in the strongest terms.

Charan Singh, another former prime minister and head of a new opposition party, said: "That such a crime could take place in the country is a matter of great shame and tremendous sorrow for all of us."

Jagjivan Ram, a former colleague of Mrs. Gandhi and leader of the opposition Janata (J) Party, told Reuters the assassination was a national calamity and marked what he said was a failure of Indian intelligence and security.

A senior Communist Party leader, S.A. Dange, said: "It is the greatest tragedy that could ever happen in our country."

Defence Minister S.B. Chavan cut short a visit to Moscow and flew to New Delhi Wednesday noon following news of the assassination.

U.S., Israel tighten bilateral cooperation

By Donald Neff

WASHINGTON — The United States will release key technology for use in a new Israeli fighter bomber and allow an extra \$100 million worth of Israeli military sales in the U.S. The Reagan administration has also apparently agreed to allow Israel to skip \$500 million in repayments on its huge U.S. debt in an effort to rescue the country's reeling economy.

U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger who was in Egypt, Israel and Jordan recently told reporters that his government would consider meeting an Israeli request for diesel submarines and was thinking hard about buying Israeli-made 120-mm mortars for the U.S. military.

The technology to be released includes details of the composition of a special material made by the Grumman Aerospace Corporation to be used in the wing of the Lavi fighter, expected to be Israel's chief warplane in the 1990s. The wings will be made in the United States but Israel has been pressing Washington for the technological data.

An Israeli official said the postponement on the debt was a holly action for three months until the U.S. Congress returns in January.

At the same time, the Israeli government reported record inflation for September of 21.4 per cent, which meant that the cost-of-living increase pushed prices about 440 per cent higher in the past 12 months. Projected into the future the rate would approach an astonishing 1,000 per cent. The previous record inflation rate for a month was 21.1 per cent in October 1983, according to an Israeli government agency.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres, back from an obviously profitable week's visit to the United States, briefed a special session of the cabinet in Jerusalem on the details of U.S. attempts to bolster the flagging Israeli economy. Afterwards, it was revealed that one of the biggest concessions by the Reagan administration to Israel so far disclosed is the granting of the forgiveness period on repayment of Israel's \$9.6 billion debt to the United States.

Communications Minister Amnon Rubinstein said that the moratorium might be extended when Congress reconvenes. Finance Minister spokesman Eli Yosef said Washington was considering totally writing off the \$500 million.

This would considerably ease Israel's repayments problem of its staggering international debts of \$24 billion, including its obligations to the United States.

More financial rescue actions may be in store.

The decision on the debt comes on top of Washington's agreement to break with tradition and give Israel all of its \$1.2 billion economic aid for the new fiscal year in one lump sum instead of quarterly.

In addition, Mr. Peres and President Ronald Reagan agreed in principle on a free-trade pact between the two countries that would allow Israel to sell duty-free all of its products in the United States. About 85 per cent of Israel's goods are already exempt from duties but the agreement is deemed important for increasing exports of agricultural products.

An innovative aspect of the agreement is aimed at opening up both countries to trade in business services such as banking, travel and advertising. The purpose would be to give service firms the same benefits and privileges in each country.

Reining in Israel's runaway economy was the main objective of Mr. Peres' week-long visit to the United States, which ended on 13 October.

In interviews after returning to Israel, he said that the Reagan administration has promised his country substantial help without imposing any conditions or demands for political or economic concessions.

"I didn't go as a beggar," he added.


Although both sides said publicly that specific figures for increased aid had not been discussed, Israeli and U.S. sources leaked information after Mr. Peres' meeting with President Reagan saying that Israel wanted \$4 billion annually, nearly double its present aid package of \$2.6 billion. This would represent \$2 billion in military aid and a similar amount in economic aid, all of it in the form of grants which do not have to be repaid.

One of the administration's considerations about an increase of this magnitude is that it might have to give a similar amount to Egypt. Since Egypt's 1979 "peace" treaty with Israel, the United States has kept aid to that country roughly on a par with Israel's. Egypt currently receives \$2 billion in grants.


The Israelis would like aid aged at a \$4 billion level for several years, a U.S. administration source said, but since Congress is in recess until January no immediate action can be taken.

As a quick fix to alleviate Israel's desperate shortage of foreign currency reserves — now equal to less than a few weeks' import costs — Mr. Reagan agreed to sign legislation allowing Israel to receive all of its \$1.2 billion in economic aid this fiscal year in one sum. This means Israel will be able to earn an extra \$60 million in interest payments on the money and will be able to meet its pressing short-term needs until Congress returns.

In the longer term, the two countries agreed to the loosening of the free-trade zone and established a joint economic development program made up of government and non-government experts from each nation to study basic economic issues — such as Middle East peace.


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Sikhs: A long walk from non-violence to militancy

From The Associated Press

NEW DELHI — Sikhism, a branch of Hinduism founded in northwestern India in about 1500, began with a peaceful orientation against religious intolerance, but its followers eventually became warriors who learned how to "draw the sword."

Although the religion rejects idolatry and the Hindu caste system, in contemporary society, India's 13 million Sikhs are split into many caste groups.

The religion was founded with a monotheistic creed, in an attempt to reconcile Muslim and Hindu, but most of the features of Hinduism eventually were dropped.

Guru Nanak, the founder of Sikhism, led a non-violent crusade against the Hindu caste system.

"There is no Hindu, there is no

Muslim (Muslim)," was the credo of his peaceful mission. The Guru's message was sung in simple verses to the peasantry of the Punjab, the northern state that reeled last summer under an extremist agitation of Sikhs, who consider Hindus their enemies and demanded political and religious concessions for the state from the government of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

The Sikhs are a religious minority in predominantly Hindu India, but hold a slight majority in Punjab. Eleven per cent of India's estimated 672 million people are Muslims, and 83 per cent are Hindu.

The Sikhs' Akali Dal Party has waged a campaign in recent years to get Mrs. Gandhi's government to agree to a list of 44 demands for reform.

Among the demands are Vatican-style status for Amritsar, permission to broadcast hymns from the Golden Temple, a larger share of interstate river waters for Punjab, and a constitutional amendment to define Sikhism as a separate religion.

In June, Indian Army troops besieged and then assaulted the Golden Temple, the Sikhs' holiest place of worship. The Gandhi government said the siege was necessary to root out Sikh extremists who were waging a terrorist campaign to gain more control for the Sikhs.

The government said about 492 Sikhs and 93 army soldiers were killed in the assault; military and police sources put the death toll at about 1,000 Sikhs and 220 soldiers.

Sikh beliefs are much closer to

Hinduism than Hinduism. Sikhs believe in one God, and condemn worship of idols and graven images. They revere a holy book similar to the Koran. The deities of Hinduism are represented in pictures and in enshrined statues.

But there are links between Sikhism and Hinduism.

Like Hindus, Sikhs oppose the slaughter of cows and consumption of beef in any form. They accept the Hindu theory of karma and transmigration of the soul from one life to another until it merges with God.

Sikh men are easily distinguishable by their beards and their colorful turbans, worn over knotted, unshorn hair.

All adults, male and female, can perform religious ceremonies.

When Guru Nanak died in 1539, he had a following of both

Hindus and Muslims, but under the 17th century Guru Arjun Dev, the Sikhs were molded into a distinct community, with a separate, ethnic identity and culture.

The militarisation of the Sikhs began when Arjun Dev was executed by the Moghul Emperor Jahangir. The Moghuls were Muslims.

But the complete transformation of the Sikhs into warriors came 200 years ago with the Guru Gobind Singh, who added the suffix "Singh" or "lion" to the names of newly initiated members. It also was during this time that the distinguishing feature of unshorn hair and beard became traditional among the Sikhs.

Gobind Singh's teachings, called the "Khalsa Panth," the pure religion, encouraged believers to

strive for asceticism, and to raise an army of soldier-saints.

Under him, the policy of turning the other cheek, which Guru Nanak taught, changed to returning blow for blow.

Today, the Sikhs are carrying on Gobind Singh's militant tradition. Authorities say more than 375 people have been assassinated by Sikh militants in the past three years in Punjab. The terrorists' goal is to establish "Khalistan" — an independent Sikh homeland.

Two self-styled "saints" led the Sikh movement in Punjab, where Sikhs comprise about 52 per cent of the 17 million people.

They were Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, 38, who died in the siege imposed on Amritsar, and Harmandir Singh Longowal, the leader of the Akali Dal Party.

Women: Missing link in development programmes

In the "Third World" a woman's place is in the field, the granary and the dairy, as well as in the home. Recent studies on the role of women in agriculture all point to the same conclusion — they contribute far more to food and agricultural production than has been generally recognised.

The studies show that women produce much of the "Third World's" food, and that they process and cook almost all of it. Furthermore, they play a leading role in marketing cash crops.

In fact, far from limiting themselves to household chores, rural women in developing countries spend most of their working time producing and processing food or earning cash — less than half is spent feeding, clothing and caring for their families.

To highlight the importance for agriculture of women, the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) has chosen the subject as the theme for the fourth World Food Day, on Oct. 16 this year. The anniversary of FAO's founding in 1945, the day will be celebrated in more than 150 countries by millions of people, from national leaders to schoolchildren.

What women do

In 82 developing countries outside Latin America surveyed by FAO, 42 per cent of the agricultural labour force was female. The proportion ranged from 46 per cent in sub-Saharan Africa and 45 per cent in Asia to 40 per cent in the Caribbean and 31 per cent in North Africa and the Middle East.

In Africa, women play a particularly important role. It is estimated that they contribute two-thirds of all hours spent in traditional African agriculture, and three-fifths of the time spent in marketing.

While men tend to do the heavy intermittent jobs of land clearing, fencing and land preparation in sub-Saharan Africa, women are much more involved than men in hoeing and weeding crops and in harvesting, transporting, storing, processing and marketing produce. The sexes share fairly equally in planting crops and caring for animals.

In Asia, women do much of the work involved in producing rice, the staple crop. In Nepal, for example, a detailed study found that they provide two-thirds of the labour for rice planting, three-quarters for weeding and all the work involved in cleaning and storing rice.

Women are particularly imp-

ortant later in the food chain, during and after the harvest. In Africa, they account for most of the time spent in harvesting crops. Women undertake more than half the storage and processing workload in most of the countries surveyed. They clean, thresh and dry grain, dry fish and make cheese and yoghurt.

Women are more involved than men in buying and selling food in most developing countries. In West Africa, for example, women traders handle most of the domestic farm and marine fisheries produce. In much of Asia, marketing vegetables at the local level is done by women.

Women also shoulder much of the work involved in feeding and care for small animals, such as poultry, goats, pigs and rabbits. They do the milking and they process and market milk and other animal products locally.

Increasing workload

There are signs that women are taking on a bigger share of agricultural labour as men migrate to work in towns and cities. Women are doing more of the traditionally male jobs, such as ploughing and preparing land for cultivation. In Swaziland, for example, a study found that they were doing most of the ploughing.

When men depart for the cities, temporarily or permanently, they also leave their wives with sole responsibility for the family. The proportion of households now headed by women ranges from 22 per cent in sub-Saharan Africa to 15 per cent in Latin America. In one southern African country, 63 per cent of households are headed by women.

Of course, women face most of the household work whether or not they live with men. African women, in particular, do almost all the work of feeding and caring for their families, and they collect almost all domestic water and fuel. "Third World" women generally face much longer working days than men.

When left out of development programmes

Ignorance of the female role has serious implications for the development effort. Since the demise of colonialism, "Third World" countries have been engaged in the massive task of modernising their agriculture, to transform traditional methods into modern systems of surplus production. Attempts have been made, with mixed success, to increase yields from agriculture, forestry and fis-



production can be partly explained by the tendency in official statistics to concentrate on wage labour or cashcrop production, which are dominated by men. The International Labour Organisation estimates that, on a global basis, almost half the hours worked by women are not counted in official labour force statistics.

Women may be left out of the development picture because they are under-represented in the policy-making areas of government and in agricultural extension and training services. Less than 10 per cent of extension workers are women. In Africa they account for only 3.4 per cent of trained agricultural personnel, according to a recent survey by FAO.

Of course, averages like these hide tremendous differences between countries — in 12 African countries less than 1 per cent of trained agricultural personnel are women, while in six countries more than nine per cent are. The figure is 25 per cent in Lesotho and Swaziland, where men have emigrated from rural areas in large numbers.

In the extension services of most developing countries women are largely restricted to advising on home economics. Even then, they are usually administered by men. There are exceptions — more than a third of extension agents employed by the government extension service in peninsular Malaysia are women. A similar situation exists in the Philippines.

The share of women in agricultural management and extension is likely to increase in the future. Even in Africa, where such a tiny proportion of trained agricultural personnel are women, 15 per cent of agriculture students are now female.

The proportion of women participants in FAO-supported group training activities in 1982 ranged from a low of 3.9 per cent in the Near East to 12 per cent in Africa and in Latin America and the Caribbean and 15.2 per cent in Europe. In Asia and the Pacific only five per cent of the participants were women.

Reaching out to women and men

What can be done to help women in their work and to give them a bigger say in the development affecting their lives? Clearly they can be taken into account when development programmes and projects are being planned.

To encourage this, FAO has drawn up a set of guidelines for use in agricultural planning. They

cover issues such as education and extension, and access to credit and marketing. For example, the guidelines recommend that credit schemes be designed to make credit available without requiring land title as collateral — particularly important for women whose husbands have migrated to urban areas. The guidelines also suggest ways of bringing women into field projects in areas such as irrigation, land and water management, soil conservation and fertiliser use.

The impact of agricultural programmes on women could be improved if more information were available on the role of women. Statisticians should be encouraged to develop socio-economic indicators that show the impact of development programmes on the well-being and prosperity of women to be more accurately measured. Statistics can be improved for these purposes by breaking down data by sex wherever possible.

In the long term, education — both for women and men — offers the best chance of improving the position of rural women in the "Third World." Women must be encouraged to participate in educational programmes at all levels — from farmers' field days to post-graduate university study. Male farmers need to be shown how changes in their working methods can affect their womenfolk, for better and for worse. Policy-makers, both male and female, need more information about the role of women.

Agricultural education for women is gradually swinging away from a sole focus on home economics and nutrition, as people come to understand how rural women actually use their time. Nutrition remains an important topic, but instead of focusing just on food selection and preparation, programmes now take into account broader aspects, such as the different effects on nutrition of male and female cash earnings. Men also need to learn about nutrition — if only so they will accept new and more nutritious ingredients and styles of food.

The "Third World's" need for increased food production and rural development has never been greater, while the climate for external assistance from the industrialised world has rarely been worse. In extension, as in agriculture generally, the challenge is to make use of all available human and material resources. There is no excuse for ignoring both the existing and potential contribution of half the population — FAO report.

Randa Habib's Corner

Stress, me, why?

ALLOW ME today to tell you about my problem. I have dizziness spells that poison my life since two years.

The reason? According to doctors, it is stress and anxiety. The solution? To relax as much as possible and to take things lightly. Stress! Me? I have always considered myself a happy person, easy to live with and hard to irritate. But since things have been spinning in front of me during my spells, I decided to, well, watch myself closely.

So let's summarise a typical day: Waking up in the morning with an optimistic smile on my face, good morning to the family. We smile and assemble for breakfast. Ring... ring... the phone rings at 8.10. Hello, on the line is a "friend"; to be more accurate, an acquaintance who is crying bitterly because of a quarrel with "X"... ten minutes pass, another 15, 20... the result is the first attack of stress. I leave the house, and while driving my car I risk at least two times to be killed by crazy drivers. I go to the office, nowhere to park, I manage to find a place in a small street where I might get a ticket... stress again. I get to the office and start reading the political news: Lebanon, Iraq-Iran war, a bomb that exploded killing dozens of people... stress. A "visitor" comes in, big as a wall and carrying his samsonite, he sits and talks, talks, talks. I realise that he has left me a file that concerns him and he asks me to take care of it because he will be leaving... stress, stress... I hardly know this man, what a mess.

During the afternoon tea with friends I hear the morbid stories about death, divorce, crimes, and, guess what, stress again.

In the evening the telephone rings. I receive news about friends in Lebanon, one has been kidnapped. Your uncle? He died with a bullet in the head, this charming couple received a rocket on the head. What about Hala? Well, she was luckier she died from a lung cancer, well at least it is a natural death.

At night when I go to bed, I tell myself: "Randa, no stress and anxiety, please. Otherwise things like these will just continue to swirl around you for a long, long time."

Gandhi killing is latest in long list of assassinations

From Reuters

Jordan Wasfi Tell gunned down in Cairo.

MARCH 1973 — Governor of Bermuda Sir Richard Sharples shot dead in grounds of government house.

MARCH 1975 — King Faisal of Saudi Arabia shot dead in palace in Riyadh by his nephew.

APRIL 1975 — President Ngata Tombalbaye died from wounds received when army overthrew his government in Chad.

AUG. 1975 — Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, president of Bangladesh, died in shooting in his Dacca home in army coup.

FEB. 1976 — General Murtala Muhammed, Nigerian head of state, shot dead in unsuccessful coup.

OCT. 1977 — Yemen Arab Republic Head of State Ibrahim Al-Hamdi assassinated by unknown assailants.

APRIL 1978 — President Mohammad Daoud of Afghanistan killed in coup.

JUNE 1978 — Lt.-Col. Ahmad Hussain Al-Ghassmi, Yemen Arab Republic president, killed by parcel bomb.

OCT. 1979 — President Park Chung-Hee of South Korea shot and killed in Seoul restaurant by his chief of intelligence.

APRIL 1980 — President William Tolbert of Liberia shot dead in a military coup.

MAY 1981 — Zair Rahman, president of Bangladesh, shot by group of rebel army officers in Chittagong during failed coup.

AUG. 1981 — Iranian President Mohammad Ali Rajai and premier Mohammad Javad Bahonar killed in bomb blast in Tehran.

OCT. 1981 — President Anwar Sadat of Egypt assassinated by soldiers during a military parade in Cairo.

AUG. 1982 — Bashir Gemayel, president-elect of Lebanon, killed in bomb blast in Beirut.

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Jordan Finance Consortium starts operations in London this month

AMMAN — A consortium of 15 Jordanian local banks has received a deposit-taking licence from the Bank of England (central bank) and will start trading in London this month.

The Jordan Finance Consortium (JFC) will be capitalised at £20 million (\$24 million), of which the government has a 20 per cent stake.

The bank has been set up for three reasons: To help to finance trade; to enable its shareholders to operate more efficiently in international business; and to provide banking services for the Arab community in the U.K. Its chairman is Mr. Mohammad Said Nabulsi, Central Bank of Jordan governor.

The second-largest shareholder is the Housing Bank, with a 15 per cent stake.

The Bank of Jordan, the Cairo Amman Bank, Jordan-Gulf Bank, Jordan Kuwait Bank, Jordan National Bank, Petra Bank, and Syrian Jordanian Bank each have a 6 per cent stake.

The Arab Jordan Investment Bank, Finance and Credit Corporation, Jordan Investment and Finance Corporation, Jordan Securities Corporation and the National Financial Investment Company have 4 per cent each, while Darco for Investment and Housing Company and the Real Estate Financing Corporation have 1.5 per cent each.

JFC's establishment was approved by the cabinet in August, when it came in for sharp criticism.

Some local bankers complained that the consortium would initially be forced to rely on U.K. clearing banks to process sterling deals, which would add to service costs. They also said the central bank ran the risk of having a conflict of interest in JFC. (MEED).

British Telecom braces for labour trouble

LONDON: British Telecom's (B.T.'s) industrial relations are passing through a cultural revolution.

The shift from public corporation to private business is becoming a key test of the government's favourite reforms: Greater devolution of B.T.'s highly centralised bargaining; a widening of pay differentials; a loosening of demarcation and a crackdown on overmanning.

The degree to which these — and other — changes succeed in penetrating B.T.'s once cosy way of life will be an important indicator of the real state of British industrial relations.

The early portents for the advocates of change have been good. Mr. Mike Bett, corporate director of personnel, says there has been a "perceptible shift in attitude" since the introduction of competition, profit incentives etc. over the past two years.

The unions remain opposed in principle to privatisation (over 95 per cent of B.T.'s staff are union members) and at the height of a campaign last year it was rejected by the majority of staff. Now it is here, along with the £70 (\$83) worth of free shares for each employee.

But Mr. Bett's personnel department is already behaving in a far more bullish fashion. "When I first came here this department spent most of its time telling managers they could not do the things the chairman was urging on them to improve efficiency. Now we are removing those bars," he said.

In the past 18 months Mr. Bett has threatened to give six months' notice on three major union agreements if reforms could not be negotiated. In two cases he has carried out the threat and in the third the union accepted the changes.

When the new left-wing leadership of B.T.'s biggest (and traditionally right-led) union — the Post Office Engineering Union (POEU) — began an overtime ban in some of the main international exchanges at the end of last year the management took determined and unexpected action the moment it began to bite. They effectively locked out the 1,200 engineers who refused to work normally and ran it with 300 managers.

While top management might have shocked union officials and impressed customers by their aggression they have only won the first battle and by their own accounts still have a long way to go.

"When 250,000 civil servants suddenly find themselves in the private sector there is bound to be resistance to some changes," says Mr. Bett.

That resistance extends from middle management to labourers, all of whom have previously enjoyed "model" agreements on pay, hours and job security.

To many outsiders — trade unionists or managers — most of the changes now being proposed would seem astonishingly mild but judged by their own past experience the accusations of "macho management" are understandable.

B.T. has been a remarkably "family" organisation.

Nine out of ten staff have spent their whole working lives in the company and between one-third and a half of all employees followed an immediate relative into the business.

Those figures have applied to management grades, too, and although there has recently been a steady inflow of new management blood, managers remain close to the shopfloor.

The three main areas where senior management is now pushing to roll back the status quo even further are: "Jobs; pay and flexibility; and devolution of bargaining."

Jobs: It is widely assumed that B.T. is overmanned. The B.T. board refutes the wilder rumours of 100,000 job cuts but will insist on reviewing manning levels: It is already close to the aim of shedding 15,000 jobs in three years by March 1985, despite heavy recruitment in marketing and computers. The POEU has seen job opportunities in its grades decline for the first time over this year.

These trimmings have come simply through what B.T. calls "good housekeeping" — for example, closing unnecessary supply depots and cutting apprenticeships to a trickle. The major redundancies from technology have yet to come.

Compulsory redundancy has been unknown in B.T. for many decades. Since 1979 it has been formally ruled out by the job security agreement (for POEU members) and the Telecom redeployment agreement (for the Union of Communication Workers which represents operators).

B.T. management is now exerting strong pressure for reform of these agreements.

B.T. is also keen to speed up voluntary early retirement by quietly improving the already generous terms. Staff can now retire up to six and two-thirds years before age 60 on full pension plus a lump sum of one and a half years' salary.

But brokers De Zoete and Bevan's "pessimistic" estimate of 2,000 jobs to be shed a year up to 1988 is probably safest.

The unions are likely to have wide support for their no-redundancy fight partly because of B.T.'s low average age (in POEU grades it is 35½), and the board may tread more warily than its rhetoric suggests.

Pay and flexibility: Changing technology is bringing in its wake new skill requirements which, as in other parts of industry, involves a widening gap between higher and lower skills and a thinning out of the middle skill ranges.

B.T. is keen to break the link between the pay of the top technicians — whom it recognises it may have to pay more to retain — and the lower grades. A widening of differentials was pressed hard but unsuccessfully at this year's pay talks. It also featured in the engineering restructuring package — seeking greater job flexibility — rejected by the last POEU conference.

Most grades of staff are likely to remain close to the top of national pay league tables and the present B.T. average of £9,000 (\$10,710) per annum is expected to increase a point or two above inflation in the years after privatisation.

Ironically while the unions are playing down pay relative to the jobs fight, B.T. will be loosening the purse strings a little to try to buy out outdated or irregular practices and thus break the competition. (Labour costs are now 43 per cent of B.T.'s total).

Devolution of bargaining: Productivity has been rising although this year may not be wholly reliable. It may improve even faster when B.T. introduces local productivity bargaining to replace what it regards as the spurious national productivity deals of the past few years.

The desired extent of managerial devolution in other fields remains an open debate.

— Financial Times news feature.

Labour assails Thatcher on unemployment figures

LONDON (R) — The British government is creating a "shoeshine" economy in which millions of unemployed face the prospect of never having another job, opposition Labour Party spokesman Mr. Neil Kinnock said Tuesday.

Mr. Kinnock was opening a parliamentary debate on unemployment prompted by official figures released this month that showed the jobless total had passed three-and-a-quarter million for the first time.

He dismissed government claims that high wage settlements in industry were to blame for unemployment and said the government was creating a "coolie generation" in which people were obliged to "work in computer-age jobs for steam-age wages."

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's government has been on the defensive over unemployment since the record jobless figures were released. The next set of job statistics is due on Thursday.

At the Conservative conference earlier this month, her ministers were accused by some delegates of lacking compassion in tackling the unemployment issue.

Mr. Kinnock charged that long-term unemployment was creating a mood of despair among people who were the traditional backbone of the British economy.

"If these people feel abandoned, the effect on the fabric of our society will be truly terrible," he directed his attack mainly against chancellor of the exchequer Mr. Nigel Lawson, who he said carried out his task in a "coma of complacency". But he also attacked Mrs. Thatcher for declining to speak in the debate on what he said was the most serious issue facing the government.

Mr. Lawson acknowledged the jobless crisis by telling parliament: "Large-scale unemployment is indeed one of the curses of our time."

But he said it was a problem that had also affected other countries. Government policy had been to create an economic climate in which jobs could be created.

He said it was up to the population to help tackle the problem by avoiding excessive pay claims and showing greater enterprise. "In a free society the government alone cannot determine the outcome."

Swiss residents top savers list

GENEVA (R) — The world's biggest savers live in Switzerland, according to figures released Tuesday by the International Savings Bank Institute (ISBI).

The next-best are residents of Japan, the United States and Belgium.

The average Swiss resident had bank deposits and savings certificates worth \$14,465 at the end of last year, the ISBI said.

In Japan, the U.S. and Belgium the figures were \$9,834, \$7,185 and \$6,897 respectively.

The Geneva-based institute, which represents over 3,000 affiliated savings banks in 75 countries, said the Swiss would lead the table even if accounts held by foreigners were excluded.

This was due to the "pronounced propensity of the Swiss to save".

The lowest per capita savings of the 38 countries surveyed were in Niger with \$6, Upper Volta with \$9 and Bangladesh with \$10.

Hungary and Yugoslavia were at the bottom of the European list with \$368 and \$463 respectively.

South Africa and the Arab states were not included in the survey.

Wage gap narrows between sexes

LOS ANGELES (R) — American women are narrowing the gap between what they and men earn and will be paid at least 74 per cent of men's wages by the year 2000, a private research organisation said Tuesday.

According to a report by the Rand Corporation, women's pay between 1980 and 1983 rose from 60 to 64 per cent of men's wages the biggest gain of the century.

The increase was due to women's improving market skills rather than to legislation, action programmes or political pressures, the report added.

It said the experience of the women's work force was increasing rapidly and the level of its education had risen faster than that of the men's work force.

At the start of this century, fewer than one woman in five was a member of the labour force. By last year, more than six women in 10 aged 20 and above were in the labour force, the report said.

The Rand Corporation, a private, non-profit organisation, studies national security and domestic welfare issues.

Iceland returns to normal after strike

REYKJAVIK (R) — Iceland returned to normal Wednesday with schools and ports reopening and the radio back on the air after the government granted a 21 per cent wage rise to end a month-long strike by the island's 17,000 public sector workers.

The strike had cut most of Iceland's links with the outside world and threatened essential supplies.

Finance Minister Albert Gudmunsson told Reuters that the new agreement, reached Tuesday night, was bound to fuel inflation.

"It is quite clear that this agreement will lead to new inflation in Iceland," he said, adding that he had no idea at present where he would find the money to pay for the deal. It will cost the government 400 million crowns (\$11.9 million) a year.

Analysts say OPEC will face new test in spring

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. government and private analysts say cuts in OPEC output should enable its official oil price to stay at \$29 a barrel in the northern hemisphere winter, but another test looms once warm weather returns.

An emergency meeting of Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) ministers in Geneva agreed Tuesday to cut the oil cartel's production ceiling by 1.5 million barrels to 16 million barrels a day.

The decision, made after unilateral price cuts by non-OPEC members Britain and Norway and OPEC member Nigeria, is intended to remove downward pressure on prices by bringing supply into better balance with oil consumption.

"That's a short-term victory, because the problem is going to hit them harder in the spring. It would be better for them to solve the fundamental problem now when the market is in their favour," a State Department official told Reuters.

But the official, who asked not to be named, said prices should stay firm for now if OPEC sticks to the new ceiling. OPEC ministers said in Geneva Wednesday that all 13 member states would share in the production cuts.

Analysts contacted by Reuters said OPEC appears to be banking on increased demand for oil with the advent of the winter heating season in North America and Europe.

A cold winter and continued economic expansion in the industrial nations could boost demand and change the market in favour of OPEC.

Currently, conventional wisdom holds that prices can only go lower and "the production cut is simply to turn the market psychology," a second State Department official said.

"They are playing for time to see if something changes," a congressional energy expert added. That strategy carries the risk that prices will not firm and that OPEC's unity will splinter in a wave of price cutting as member nations attempt to maintain oil revenues.

This could create a mirror image of the 1970s when an oil company buying spree unintentionally pushed prices higher. "If it seems clear that prices have nowhere to go but down everywhere trims their inventories and pushes prices even lower," the congressional analyst said.

Even if that does not occur, OPEC will face a new challenge when warm spring weather again cuts demand for oil, said congressional budget office analyst Mr. Everett Erick.

He said the producer group would be threatened if demand fell because of a slowing world economy and continued increases in the value of the U.S. dollar.

Oil is priced in dollars and the dollar's rise has pushed the cost of oil in local currencies higher for most nations.

But he said OPEC's resiliency should not be underestimated. Former U.S. Energy Secretary Mr. James Schlesinger also said the cartel will not vanish and should bounce back late in the decade because of a resurgence in world demand for oil.

But Mr. Jeff Malashock, a Washington-based energy consultant, argued that the cartel must ultimately trim prices or lose customers to aggressive price-cutting by non-cartel members.

Mr. Daniel Yergin, president of Cambridge Energy Research Associates, said OPEC "Will be able to muddle through until the spring," but will ultimately have to adjust the differential between the price of heavy and light crudes.

At present high quality light oils are at a serious commercial disadvantage compared with the cheaper heavy crudes.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, NOV. 1, 1984

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Early harsh influence that suggests you not be too critical or be upset by others soon gives way to a real chance to do something original and progressive.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Handle some responsibility that is important before you dash off to new interests. See only those friends who are open-minded.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Talk over your ambitions and capabilities with an expert before you try to set them in operation.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You can meet someone who can give you information you require at this time. Make sure you drive carefully today.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Pay a pressing bill before you take your loved one out for a happy time. Get business affairs in order.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Try to come to a better meeting of minds with associates. Show that you are cooperative and progressive.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) By installing new mechanisms, you can be more efficient at your work. Take it easy tonight and rest up.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Be astute in handling money matters. Be more inventive where your talents are concerned for better results.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Show your friends that you are basically honest and honorable. Repay any loans made to you previously.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) The morning starts with an unavoidable delay, but later you can get much done. Call those waiting for your advice.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) A friend may be worried, but don't add to this in any way. If home needs any repairs, be sure they are modern.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Handle outside situations before going after your aims. Be with friends who are enthused and let this rub off on you.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Get into some activity that will bring happiness to your loved one. Make a new plan to gain your secret goals.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be very magnetic early in life, but needs channeling in constructive avenues of expression. Such fields as nursing, medicine, social service and the like are good areas to delve into. Slant education this way.

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1984

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A day and evening when you are able to see the best imaginative and idealistic plans that can advance your interests as well as be able to reduce such desirable courses of action.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Either sit alone or with a good advisor and get a clear picture of what is best to do in order to advance in your career.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Discuss with mutual friends how to make your mutual hobbies work far better in the coming weeks.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) If you want to express your talents better, bring them to the attention of bigwigs who can be of assistance to you.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Good day for advancement and growth, so apply yourself more energetically.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Try to understand what one in business is saying so that you will know better how to use your talents.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Have a long conversation with that bigwig you know who can easily release the backing you need now.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You are now able to add precision and fine finish to whatever work you may be doing. Be more cooperative with your fellow workers.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Plan how to make a special talent bring in more benefits. Then do whatever will increase your romantic happiness.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) A situation at home requires thought and study from a new angle. Later have friends in with whom you want to talk.

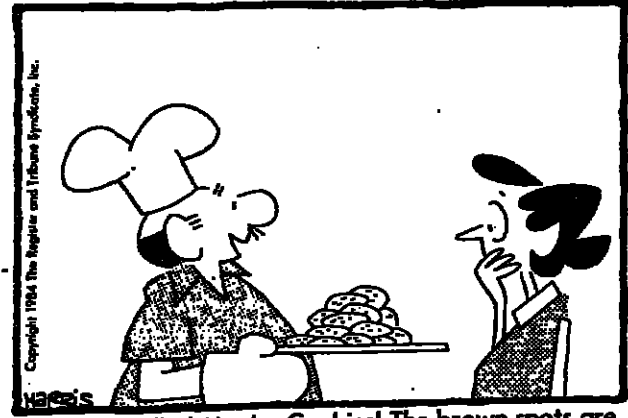
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Adding to present security is wise so that you can have a reserve for any emergencies later on.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Study any repairs needed to real estate and plan to make them; then work on a plan to have greater security.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You see clearly how you can get more of the good things of life and whatever attracts you the most.

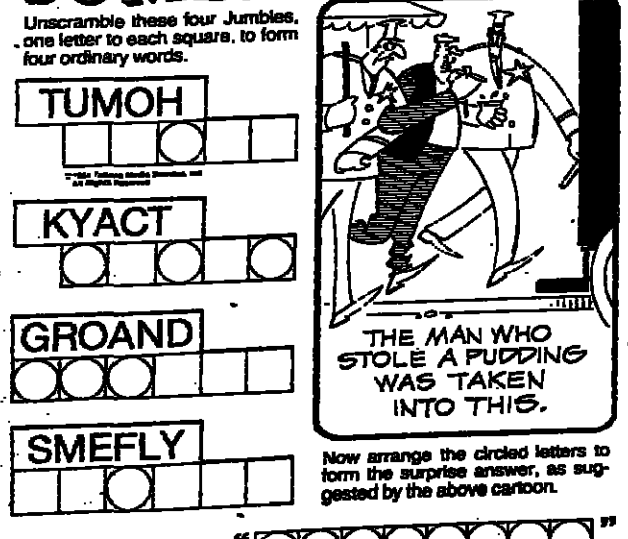
IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will get along very well with others because of the innate wisdom and kindness in this nature, and will make plans early and then do the necessary work in order to reach goals, so be encouraging in this. Make sure that you accord as fine an education as you can.

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris.



"They're called Macho Cookies! The brown spots are chocolate chips and the black spots are chewing tobacco!"

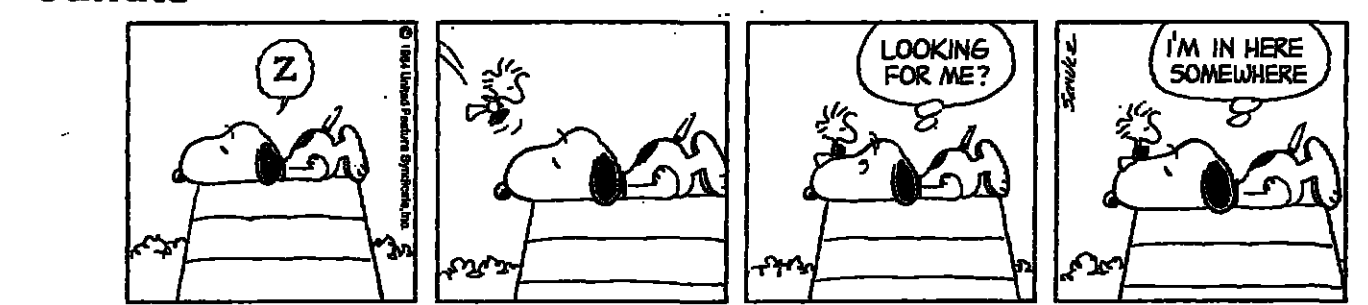
JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee



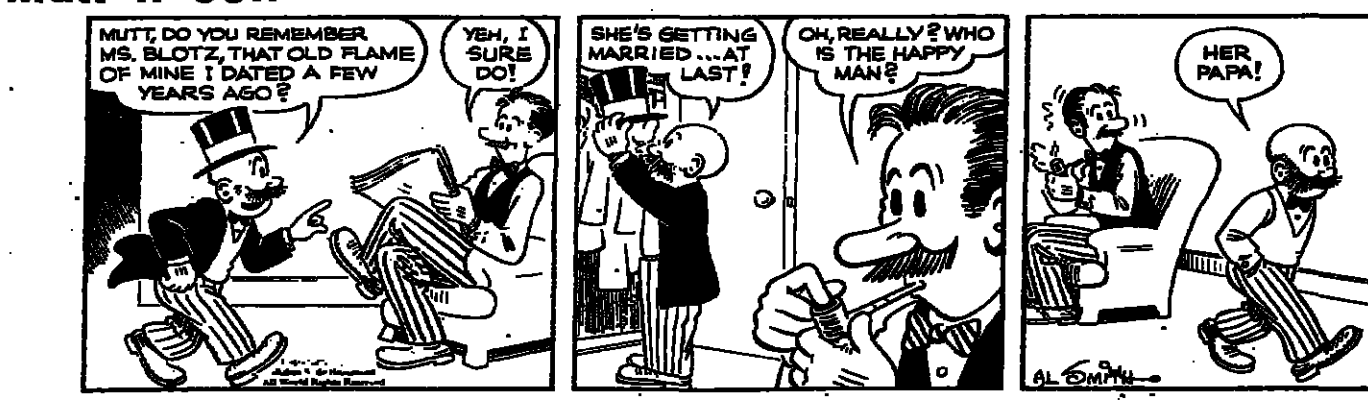
Print answer here: "_____"

Yesterday's Jumbles: MEALY, BARGE, CHARGE, TURNIP. Answer: What some bears seem to do in winter-time — "HI-BEAR-NATE"

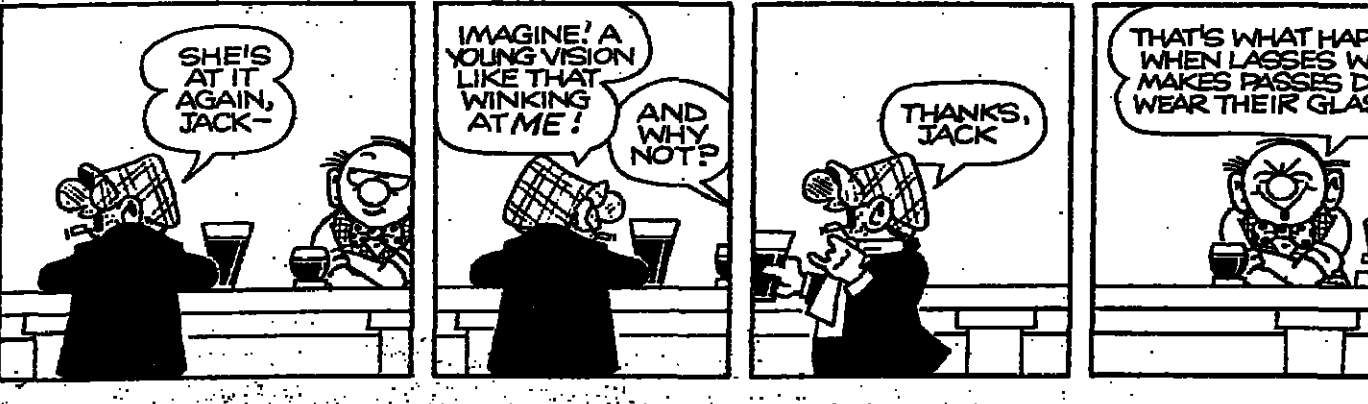
Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



World leaders condemn Gandhi's murder

LONDON (R) — World leaders Wednesday reacted with shock and sorrow at the assassination of Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

The Soviet Union fiercely condemned the killing and praised Mrs. Gandhi as an outstanding political leader.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman said the Kremlin had learnt of her death with deep anguish.

The Soviet Union considers India its most important friend in the developing world. It is also India's main arms supplier.

President Reagan was awakened in Washington shortly after news of Mrs. Gandhi's death and expressed his deep personal sorrow.

Leaders of countries with widely differing political systems, reflecting India's important influence as leader of the Non-Aligned Movement and including former enemies such as Pakistan, joined in offering sympathy for what was universally described as a senseless act of violence.

In Paris, the French National Assembly suspended its session for five minutes as a mark of respect for the slain Indian leader. The chairman of the assembly's Foreign Affairs Committee, Claude Estier, said the killing could lead to destabilisation in India that could spread through South Asia.

President Zia-ul-Haq, military ruler of Pakistan, a country with which India has fought several wars since the two became independent after British colonial rule, said he heard of the shooting with deep shock and horror.

The Irish government, which has traditionally seen itself as hav-

ing been linked with India in a common struggle for independence from London, expressed concern that Mrs. Gandhi's death posed great dangers for India.

"In a country the size of India an event of this kind has great dangers and I hope and pray that the aftermath will be peaceful," Prime Minister Garret Fitzgerald said in a statement.

Sonny Ramphal, secretary-general of the Commonwealth, expressed shock at the assassination and said the Commonwealth which held Mrs. Gandhi in deep affection and esteem prayed for India.

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher said the Commonwealth had lost one of its most formidable and vital personalities.

Mrs. Thatcher, who herself narrowly escaped assassination in an Irish guerrilla bomb attack three weeks ago, said, "the assassination was vicious, barbaric, terrible. To many of us Indira Gandhi was the symbol of India... I shall miss her very deeply, very deeply indeed."

Queen Elizabeth, head of the 49-nation Commonwealth sent a message of sympathy to the Indian people saying the world had lost one of its most distinguished leaders.

European governments also reacted with concern.

West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl said the world had lost a great leader of historical stature

and expressed consternation at her "irreplaceable loss."

The Dutch government offered sympathy to the Indian people and said they had lost a great stateswoman.

In Lisbon, the Portuguese Prime Minister Mario Soares denounced the killing as extremely sad and brutal. Mrs. Gandhi's death would leave an immense void and it would be difficult to find a substitute. Austrian Chancellor Fred Sinowatz said the death was a personal loss.

Pakistani President Zia-ul-Haq, speaking before Mrs. Gandhi died, said he had heard of the shooting with "deep shock and horror."

President Hosaini Mohammad Ershad of Bangladesh, another neighbour, said he was in despair over the assassination.

"This dastardly act only speaks of the cowardice of those who have perpetrated this crime," he said. "I strongly condemn this heinous and barbarous act."

The news of the shooting reached Sri Lanka during a cabinet meeting and a spokesman said later that ministers were "deeply grieved about this sad incident."

In Singapore, Foreign Minister S. Gnanapavan described the shooting as "a senseless act of violence," while Malaysian Foreign Minister Tengku Abdul Razzaq said he was shocked.

Both Singapore and Malaysia have sizeable Indian minorities.

New Zealand Prime Minister David Lange — who met Mrs. Gandhi earlier this month — said he hoped the shooting would not

lead to "an outpouring of hatred and violence."

He said the incident would make people realise "just how often can those who give their lives for the proper processes of government be cut down like this."

New Zealand opposition leader Sir Robert Muldoon said he was appalled at the attack. "We regard Mrs. Gandhi as one of the great women of our time," he added.

Philippine Foreign Minister Arturo Tolentino said that "as leader of the world's largest democracy, Prime Minister Gandhi has been held in great admiration and affection in the Third World, including the Philippines. Her untimely and tragic demise is a blow to all peace-loving people."

"We join the Indian nation in praying for the eternal repose of her soul."

Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke described the killing as "a shameful act of violence."

Mr. Hawke said Mrs. Gandhi was an outstanding leader whose courage, strength and guidance would be greatly missed.

"My government deplores this shameful act of terrorism," he said in a message to the Indian government.

South Korean President Chun Doo Hwan said he was extremely shocked and grieved by the death. India had lost "one of the great leaders and the world has lost a great stateswoman," Mr. Chun said.

Thai Foreign Minister Siddhi Savetsila postponed a trip to India scheduled for next week and a Foreign Ministry spokesman described Mrs. Gandhi's death as "a

very sad event and a blow not only to India but the rest of the world."

In Peking, China's Foreign Ministry expressed shock and profound condolences at Mrs. Gandhi's assassination.

In a statement telephoned to Reuters, a ministry spokesman said: "We are shocked to learn the unfortunate news that Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was assassinated."

"Indira Gandhi was an outstanding statesman of India. Before her death she made useful contributions to the improvement and development of Sino-Indian relations."

"The Chinese government and people express their profound condolences for her death."

Hong Kong Governor Sir Edward Youde also expressed his "deep sense of shock" on hearing the death of Mrs. Gandhi, a government spokesman said.

In Manila, Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos expressed the country's shock and sorrow at the assassination of Mrs. Gandhi.

In a message to the Indian government and people, he said: "India and all humanity has lost in this tragedy a great and gifted leader and violence has claimed again a victim a champion of peace."

French President Francois Mitterrand paid tribute to murdered Mrs. Gandhi, calling her an uncompromising patriot who had championed Third World rights.

Mr. Mitterrand referred in a telegram to Indian President Zail Singh of France's deep pain on hearing of the death of Mrs. Gandhi.

"With her the Indian union has lost an uncompromising patriot, an illustrious prime minister," Mr. Mitterrand said.

Pope John Paul called the assassination of Indira Gandhi "a new, very sad link in the chain of atrocity that is staining the world with blood."

The pontiff said in a speech to pilgrims attending his weekly general audience that news of the Indian prime minister's death provoked universal horror and dismay. He said the attack was another cause for concern, constituting a serious gesture of violence which has shocked public opinion.

The leader of the banned opposition Pakistan People's Party (PPP), Benazir Bhutto, said murdered Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi would be remembered as a freedom-fighter and a democrat.

Mrs. Bhutto, daughter of the executed Pakistani Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, said in a statement: "For decades, Mrs. Gandhi dominated the politics of her country, first as a freedom-fighter against colonialism and then as the three-time elected prime minister of the largest democracy in the world."

Mrs. Bhutto said Mrs. Gandhi had kept India united and given it a sense of self-respect and pride. Offering condolences to the leaders and people of India, she said: "In this time of darkness and despair I am sure they will rise to defend democratic rule in their country and, by so doing, pay the greatest tribute to their assassinated leader."

COLUMNS 76-8

Monaco princess attacked in Paris

PARIS (R) — Princess Stephanie, younger daughter of Prince Rainier of Monaco, was attacked by an armed man and a masked woman outside her Paris apartment on Monday night, police said Wednesday. The 19-year-old princess had arrived home from work and was about to drive into her garage in the exclusive 18th Arrondissement when a man forced his way into her car. He pointed his revolver at her and pushed her over into the passenger seat, a police spokesman said. Princess Stephanie shouted and screamed and her attackers ran away. Police said that, because they had made no demands, it was unclear whether the couple had intended to abduct or simply attack her. The princess, who was shocked but not hurt, works as an assistant to Marc Bohan, the Paris couturier who designs Dior models. She lives in the Paris residence of Prince Rainier, who was at home at the time.

3 Syrians hanged for murder

DAMASCUS (R) — Three Syrian men were publicly hanged in Damascus at dawn Wednesday after being convicted of sexually assaulting and murdering a nine-year-old boy, official sources said.

King Fahd inaugurates modern press

BAHRAIN (R) — King Fahd of Saudi Arabia Thursday inaugurated the kingdom's first modern press to be devoted purely to printing copies of the Koran, the official Saudi press agency reported. The printing press in the Muslim holy city of Medina is said to be one of the most sophisticated in the world and will run at a cost of 486 million riyals (about \$136 million) a year turning out seven million copies of the Muslim holy book annually, the agency said.

Romantic novelist dies at 91

LONDON (R) — Ursula Bloom, prolific Romantic novelist, has died at a nursing home in southern England where she lived for the past four years, her son said Tuesday. She was 91. Bloom is featured in the Guinness Book of Records as the British authoress with the greatest number of full-length titles published — more than 500 books by 1976. Her first story appeared in 1903 when she was eight and her first novel, *The Great Beginning*, in 1924. Her last book came out in 1976. A non-smoker and teetotaler, Bloom used several pen names, including Lozania Prole, Sheila Barnes, Mary Essex and Rachel Harvey.

Fire hits QE2 in mid-Atlantic

LONDON (R) — The British passenger liner Queen Elizabeth 2 was sailing home at reduced speed Tuesday night after a mid-Atlantic fire crippled one of its three engine-room turbines, her owners reported Tuesday night. The fire occurred in the main electrical junction box of the 67,000-ton liner en route from New York to the southern English port of Southampton. All 1,400 passengers on the ship are safe, the Cunard Shipping Company said. The liner had been due to dock at Southampton on Thursday but is now expected to arrive a day later.

115 Indians die of encephalitis

NEW DELHI (R) — At least 115 people have died in an outbreak of encephalitis in the eastern Indian state of West Bengal and 225 more people have been affected, the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported Wednesday. The news agency quoted official sources in the state capital, Calcutta, as saying emergency medical teams had been rushed to the stricken areas.

Reagan warns against complacency

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan, riding high in public opinion polls, says he could win a sound re-election victory next Tuesday if all goes right and Republicans are not complacent.

Democrats continue to insist the polls are wrong, and say a Reagan victory would bring deep slashes in federal social programmes.

Democratic candidate Walter Mondale said Tuesday that Mr. Reagan would try to cut both social security and Medicare, the two biggest social programmes, if he were re-elected.

House Democratic Speaker Thomas P. O'Neill called Mr. Reagan a "cheerleader for selfishness" who seduced young voters with the argument that they need not support social programmes.

Mr. Reagan told campaign supporters at the White House Tuesday that Democrats had not delivered on their promises to the

poor and therefore many long-standing Democrats would vote for him.

"If things go right, we could see an historic electoral realignment," Mr. Reagan said. "It's not because they're deserting the Democratic Party but because the Democratic Party is deserting them."

Mr. Reagan has been reluctant to predict victory, but he told the campaign workers Tuesday: "The one thing that could defeat us is complacency. Don't get overconfident."

Public opinion polls show Mr. Reagan leading Mr. Mondale by 17 to 24 percentage points.

An NBC News poll released Tuesday found voters favouring Mr. Reagan 58 per cent to 34 per cent, and the latest Gallup poll has Mr. Reagan leading Mr. Mondale.

NBC said most voters polled liked Mr. Reagan's job performance, 69 per cent called him a strong leader and 62 per cent said he had improved the economy.

Japan to lift N. Korean sanctions

TOKYO (R) — Japan said Wednesday it will lift sanctions against North Korea from Jan. 1, 14 months after they were imposed in protest against the Raigang bomb attack which killed 17 South Koreans.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Takao Fujinami said the decision was taken "in the belief that observance of these measures in the past year has achieved Japan's objective of demonstrating publicly its firm stand that acts of terrorism must never be tolerated."

But Mr. Fujinami noted that Tokyo has no diplomatic relations with North Korea and said there would be no change in this position.

Moscow joins efforts to help Ethiopia's famine

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia (AP) — The Soviet Union joined Western countries and charity organisations Tuesday in international efforts to help famine-stricken Ethiopia and other parts of central Africa.

Moscow, widely criticised for providing massive military aid but only token food supplies to Ethiopia, promised greatly expanded aid.

Meanwhile, the British charity Oxfam reported from the Ethiopian capital of Addis Ababa that the unloading of 13,000 tons of British grain had started.

Hugh Goyder, who heads Oxfam operations, said it would

take four to five days to unload and put in sacks the bulk grain from the Greek-registered freighter, Elpis.

Large shipments of grain from the United States, Britain and Canada are reported piled up in Ethiopia's Red Sea port of Assab but authorities say limited transport means it will take 50 days to distribute the food to the starving people in the interior.

In New York, the American Red Cross announced plans to send fact-finding teams to Ethiopia and Mauritania to get first-hand information on drought and famine conditions and relief efforts.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
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ANSWERS TO BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ 7652 ♠ Q6 ♠ A95 ♠ 963
Partner opens the bidding with one club. What do you respond?

A. — Dedicated five-card major addicts will religiously respond one spade. However, we go along with those who do not like bidding so weak a suit if there is any alternative. Since we don't like responding one no trump when we have a four-card major suit, we opt for a waiting bid of one diamond. That leaves us admirably placed for any rebid by partner.

Q.2 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ 95 ♠ A93 ♠ 95 ♠ AKJ872
The bidding has proceeded: North East South West 1 ♠ 1 ♠ 2 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass ?

What action do you take?
A. — In view of your excellent trump support and strong club suit, your hand merits a move toward slam. Since you have nothing to cue-bid and Blackwood won't solve your problems, the only logical bid you can make is a raise to five hearts.

Q.3 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ J6 ♠ KQ8 ♠ AJ98 ♠ KQ102
The bidding has proceeded: East South West North 1 ♠ 1 NT Pass Pass 2 ♠ Pass Pass 2 ♠ Pass ?

What action do you take?
A. — The one hand your partner can't have is a near bust with a long spade suit — with that hand he would have bid immediately. Expect partner to have only a four-card spade suit or a weak five-carder and a few points, and heart shortness. Don't leave him in a bad spot; bid two no trump and at least give him the option of introducing a second suit, if he has one.

Q.4 — Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ 1095 ♠ K105 ♠ AK6 ♠ AJ95
Your right-hand opponent opens the bidding with one diamond. What action do you take?

A. — This is not the shape for a takeout double. We would overcall one no trump. In theory, you are 1 point short for that action, but your intermediate cards (10s and 9s) more than make up for that deficiency.

Q.5 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ A10 ♠ AK9873 ♠ A5 ♠ A106
The bidding has proceeded: South West North East 1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass ?

What do you bid now?
A. — We have some sympathy if you elected to bid seven clubs right here — if nothing else, partner should have a good club suit and you do not need much more for a grand slam. However, you should try to avoid bidding a grand slam that might depend on guessing the queen of trumps, so we suggest you jump to five no trump. That is the grand slam force, asking partner to bid seven with two of the three top trump honors.

Q.6 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ AKJ9 ♠ 95 ♠ 95 ♠ K10876
Partner opens the bidding with one diamond. What do you respond?
A. — There are those who believe that you should always show a four-card major in response to partner's minor-suit opening bid. In the words of Sam Goldwyn: "Include us out!" When you can afford to take two or more bids, there is no reason why you should not bid your hand naturally. Respond two clubs, and show spades at your next turn.

Seven dead in violence during Chilean strikes

SANTIAGO (R) — Police used tear gas to clear demonstrators from blazing barricades in Santiago's shantytowns as seven people were reported killed during a protest strike against Chile's military government.

Sporadic incidents on the outskirts of the city, which had kept buses off the streets for most of Tuesday and severely disrupted normal activity, intensified at dusk as police and troops went out to enforce a seven-hour curfew.

Helicopters circled and trucks similar to those used by secret police of the National Information Centre (CNI) raced through the deserted streets of the city centre.

In other areas, residents reported shooting, explosions and

blackouts as police cleared youths from the barricades, set up in defiance of the curfew.

A military statement said three people were shot dead during disturbances and two others, one an eight-year-old boy, had been killed by an electricity cable laid across a road to trap police vehicles.

Police sources said another man had died of bullet wounds in the south of the city and that a seventh person was shot dead during demonstrations in Arica, in the far north of the country.

The sources said at least 20 people, including six policemen, were injured. Five were reported in serious condition with bullet wounds.

Nicaragua holds unity talks

MANAGUA (R) — In a drive to demonstrate national unity, Nicaragua's leftist government will open a series of talks with political, religious, labour and business leaders, a member of the ruling Sandinista junta said.

Commander Carlos Nunez Tellez told a news conference Tuesday that Indian rebel leader Broklyn Rivera, who returned from exile this month for peace talks with the Sandinistas, could also take part.

But Nunez said that discussions would not include guerrillas who had received help from the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

"There are those on the right who want us to hold dialogues with the mercenary force of the CIA," he said. "That is unacceptable."

Nunez told the news conference, being held ahead of elections next Sunday, that the aim of the talks would be "to stop the aggressions of the left-wing Sandinista administration against Nicaragua by producing a show of national unity to the world."

Meanwhile, Defence Minister Humberto Ortega accused the United States of apparently dropping spying devices off the Nicaraguan coast.

Mr. Ortega told reporters that U.S. aircraft had dropped unidentified objects off Corn Island,

on the Caribbean coast, and in the Rivas area of the Pacific coast.

"Military intelligence officials are still trying to find out exactly what they are, but we believe them to be military exploration devices," Mr. Ortega said.

He said Nicaragua still feared a U.S. invasion.

"We are not magicians who can predict exactly when, but there has been an increasing wave of aggression which could culminate in direct intervention," he said.

He said special security precautions would be taken on Sunday to protect voters against rebels operating from bases in Honduras and Costa Rica who have received U.S. support.

The State Department said Tuesday the suggestion the United States was working for the overthrow of the left-wing Sandinista government in Nicaragua "is not correct."

New questions about the Reagan administration's support of anti-government guerrillas in Nicaragua have been raised by disclosure of a Central Intelligence Agency instruction manual produced for the guerrillas use.

But State Department spokesman John Hughes, questioned about the manual, said "the suggestion that the policy of the United States is to overthrow the Sandinista regime is not correct."

THE WEEKEND CROSSWORD

LAURES AND PENATES
By Bernice Gordon

ACROSS
1 Both prof.
2 Olympic event
3 Unlaid
4 Browning
5 place
6 Holy Ignorance
7 Swelling
8 Street show
9 Sp. new
10 Restaurant
11 worker
12 Helicopters
13 Foe of the
14 lemmings
17 Desires
18 Lover's
19 meeting
20 of Morocco
21 Center of
22 activity
23 A Gullible
24 Artist Thomas
25 Sharp spot

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1 Robert or Alan
2 Chow —
3 Woodpile
4 Recovers
5 Gaucho gear
6 A Ford
7 Old-time comedian, Lew
8 Soul Fr.
9 Strong-scented herbs
10 Weekly draw
11 Units of work
12 Society road
13 Notice
14 Gas in Soho
15 Comely with
16 Goes wrong
17 Majority
18 Yield of
19 Heavy wages
20 A Titan
21 Zoological suffix

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37 Narrow openings
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LAURES AND PENATES
By Bernice Gordon

ACROSS
1 Both prof.
2 Olympic event
3 Unlaid
4 Browning
5 place
6 Holy Ignorance
7 Swelling
8 Street show
9 Sp. new
10 Restaurant
11 worker
12 Helicopters
13 Foe of the
14 lemmings
17 Desires
18 Lover's
19 meeting
20 of Morocco
21 Center of
22 activity
23 A Gullible
24 Artist Thomas
25 Sharp spot

DOWN
1 Robert or Alan
2 Chow —
3 Woodpile
4 Recovers
5 Gaucho gear
6 A Ford
7 Old-time comedian, Lew
8 Soul Fr.
9 Strong-scented herbs
10 Weekly draw
11 Units of work
12 Society road
13 Notice
14 Gas in Soho
15 Comely with
16 Goes wrong
17 Majority
18 Yield of
19 Heavy wages
20 A Titan
21 Zoological suffix

36 Taking action
37 Narrow openings
38 Kitchen's items
39 60's partner
40 40's partner
41 40's partner
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